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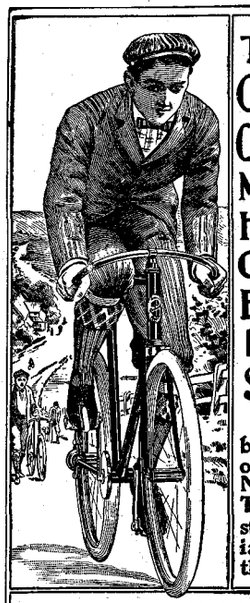

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE MAINE DISASTER.

NO case exactly parallel to the *Maine* disaster has been cited by those who invoke precedents of international law to cover it. Indeed, one new precedent is held to have been already established by our Government in this case, in conducting an investigation of the wreck independently of the Spanish Government's jurisdiction over the harbor. Barring the possibility of proving Spanish design, in which case the disaster would be a plain cause for war, and barring also the probability of an accident for which the ship's men themselves were responsible, the question of Spain's responsibility in the matter is much mooted, pending a report from the naval board of inquiry.

An Associated Press interview represented Robert T. Lincoln, ex-Secretary of War, as saying:

"Assuming a mine exploded by a fanatic or by accident, that would be the end of the affair. Giving international law the widest latitude and stretching precedents to their limit, there would be no liability against the Government of Spain. It is an elementary principle of international law that a government is in no way responsible for the acts of private citizens. If it were not so, complications would be arising continually which would keep nations in a turmoil and arbitrating continually. It is another primary principle that no nation is responsible for accidents.

"As to the right of a nation to fortify its harbor as it sees fit, there can not be the slightest doubt. This right is a conceded one, and is exercised by all nations. Whenever a vessel, therefore, enters the harbor of a foreign power it is with notice of such defenses and with an assumption of the chances they involve. It would not do to say that one nation is bound to give the ship of another nation information as to where and how its harbor defenses are arranged, and the result of such a rule would be obvious. In entering the harbor of Havana the *Maine* did so with full knowledge that it was a fortified harbor, and took all the chances of accident or the acts which might be done by those for whom Spain is not responsible."

Prof. H. E. Von Holst, of the University of Chicago, an authority on international law, takes exception to this view. He holds that in any case supposable Spain is responsible and liable for damages. We quote from an interview in the Chicago *Times-Herald:*

"If it is really an individual crime, Spain would certainly not be responsible for it, for it is a well-understood principle of international law that nations are not responsible for the acts of individuals. Essentially different, however, seems to me to be the situation in case the investigation should prove that there is culpable negligence on the part of Spain.

"If it be true that, as it is asserted, the harbor of Havana is provided with torpedoes and submarine mines, and if it be further true that the place of anchorage was assigned to the *Maine* by Spanish officials, and the disaster has befallen the *Maine* through those mines or torpedoes, Spain, in my opinion, would have to pay damages for the loss of the ship, besides indemnities for the sailors, dead or wounded. I am of the same opinion in case those mines or torpedoes have not exploded by accident, but through the criminal act of some individual Spaniard, whether official or not, and, for this reason, if the Spanish Government laid those mines and torpedoes it is in duty bound to watch them in such a way that no harm could be done by them, except in legitimate warfare.

"I am inclined to go even one step further. I think the liability of Spain could not be denied if neither the place of anchorage was assigned to the *Maine* by Spanish officials nor the explosion was due to the criminal act of some individual, but simply to some unaccountable accident. For while Spain had unquestionably the right to provide her harbor with submarine mines and torpedoes, she was morally bound to warn any ship of a friendly nation—not only a man-of-war, but the same holds true of any merchantman—of the danger that would be incurred by anchoring in that harbor except in a safe position consigned to her. Any power that allows a ship of a friendly nation to enter her harbor thereby implicitly declares that it is safe to do so, fortified or not. So in all these cases there seems to be a clear case of responsibility on the part of Spain.

"But I think it highly in the interest of the United States that in contending for this opinion all papers not dealing in sensationalism or jingoism should strongly emphasize that this is only a liability for damages—that is to say, a purely pecuniary question. For pecuniary questions, however, nations do not rush at once into war. Supposing that the official inquiry should establish such a pecuniary obligation on the part of Spain, in our opinion, and Spain should deny it, it would still, I hold, be much too early to speak of war. We have had many a controversy of this character with Spain, and some of them have been of an exceedingly aggravating character. Still we never have gone to war about them. Diplomatic means have been employed, and they have ultimately attained the end in view. Such a course should be pursued now. Nor does this mean advocating a half-hearted and dilly-dallying policy. Diplomatic means can be resorted to in a very energetic manner and with nine out of ten chances of success. Even after all diplomatic resources were exhausted there would still be one course open, short of war—that of reprisals in one way or another.

"The honor of the United States would not suffer in the least by such a course, but, on the contrary, in the opinion of the whole world, the reputation of the United States for a circumspect and dignified, while at the same time firm, policy would thereby only be increased."

Due Diligence and International Responsibility.—"A good deal of nice reasoning from precedents is just now finding its way into print in connection with the *Maine* disaster.

"As a broad general principle no government is responsible

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when a miscreant assails a citizen or subject of another government. But, on the other hand, every government has sole power to keep order within its own dominions, and if it so far neglects to exercise that power as to permit damage to the subjects or citizens of other countries it is responsible. On this principle we have ourselves paid heavy damages in the New Orleans case and in the case of the massacre of Chinamen at Rock Springs, and, on the other hand, we have exacted damages of Chile for the massacre of our sailors by a mob.

"Rigidly interpreted the principle is this: No government is responsible for individual crime which it can not prevent by due diligence, but where due diligence is lacking it is responsible.

"But the case of the *Maine* lies wholly out of this category. The war-ship went to Havana on a mission of peace and threw herself absolutely upon the hospitality of the Spanish authorities. They selected her anchorage without leaving her officers any choice whatever. If that anchorage was over a mine they knew it. If that mine was exploded whether by government authority or by some miscreant whose access to the means of blowing it up might have been prevented, then unquestionably Spain is responsible.

"The whole case turns upon this question of fact.

"One other point is worth mentioning. International law is not a binding statutory code. There is nowhere in the world any authority that can enforce it. It is a mere comity of nations, and any nation strong enough may disregard its technicalities where in that nation's judgment those technicalities work injustice. This is precisely what both Germany and Japan are at this moment doing as to China.

"Ordinarily nations obey international law, but when the occasion is great enough and the guns big enough they rise above it and compel justice with the high hand of might."—*The World, New York.*

Spain Could Disavow.—"If the ship were blown up by some Spaniard, or even a number of Spaniards, that ought not, and probably would not, create trouble. The facts would be promptly represented to Spain, and she would as promptly, and probably in all sincerity, disavow the act with honor, and make all the amends in her power. Parallel cases have occurred in abundance in nearly all of the countries of Europe, and in more than one instance on the American continent. Foreigners have assassinated, or have attempted to assassinate, the heads of governments, but in no instance has an effort been made to hold responsible the countries of which these assassins were citizens. War is not carried on in that way. Civilization is reasonable, and does not expect a government to do an impossibility. Assassinating the head of a state is a more serious offense than blowing up a battleship, but either one of them can be done by an irresponsible villain or villains, in spite of the state's utmost vigilance."—*The American, Baltimore.*

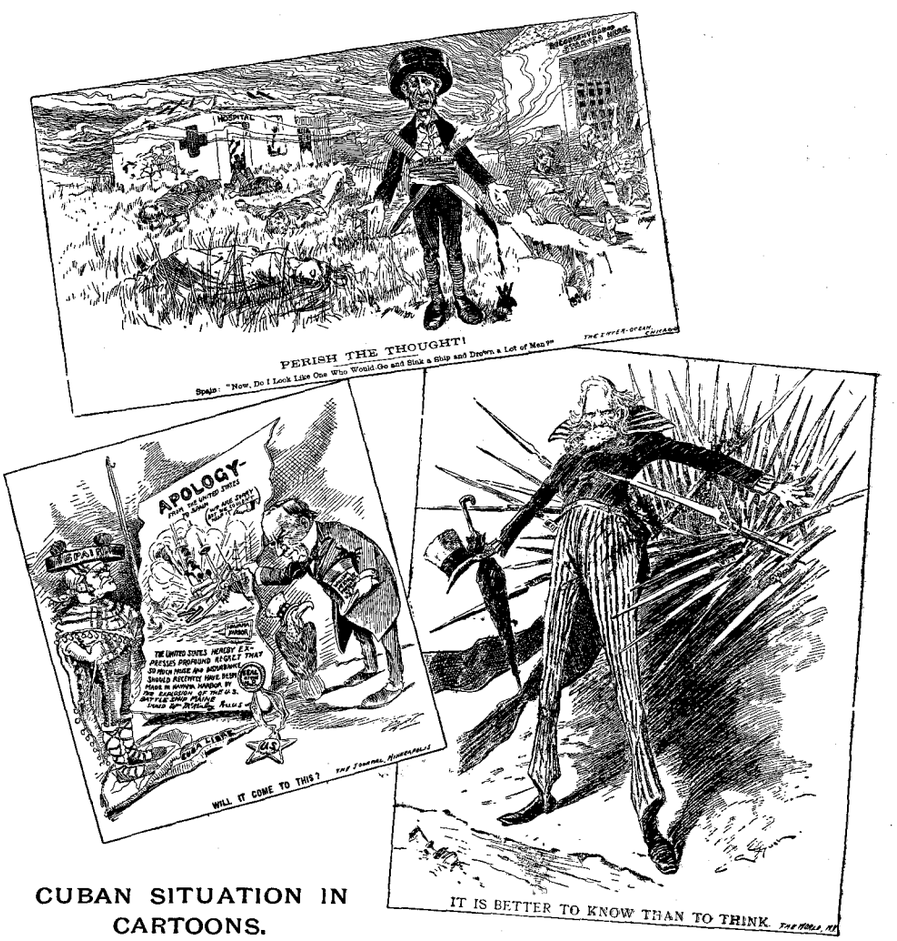
What Due Diligence Is.—"What due diligence is may be readily learned by any curious and unauthorized person who seeks to approach the Spanish cruiser *Vizcaya* now at anchor in our harbor and under our effective protection. If she should be destroyed while here we should be able to show that we really exercised due care.

"There were no such precautions taken in Havana harbor; there was no patrol on guard, no protection, but a complacent trust in the goodness and forbearance of its people on the part of the Spanish Government.

"Before a tribunal of law Spain would doubtless be held legally and morally responsible if it should be proved that the *Maine* was destroyed by any government appliance in the hands of a Spanish officer, even tho he were acting without authorization; she would be held to the payment of an indemnity if the act were perpetrated by a private miscreant, were the loyal Spaniard or Cuban rebel; and she would be held free of all blame if the *Maine* were shown to have been destroyed by an accident on board."—*The Times, New York.*

Jurisdiction over the Wreck.—"All authorities on international law agree that a war-ship while afloat retains the territorial status of its own Government, and that even when in foreign waters she is to be regarded as exempt from local jurisdiction. War-ships, says Professor Wolsey, may be considered 'floating barracks, a part of the public organism that represent the national dignity, and on this account even in foreign waters are exempt from local jurisdiction. It is on account of the crew rather than the ship itself that it has any territorial quality. Take the crew away and let the abandoned hulk be met at sea, and it now becomes public property and nothing more.' The vessel having ceased to be a part of the sovereignty of the United States, the relation of this Government to the wreck is that of an owner. We have proprietary but no jurisdictional rights over the wreck. The jurisdiction of Spain over Havana harbor, however, can not be gainsaid, nor can this Government deny the right of the Spanish local authorities to conduct an investigation of the bottom of a territorial water of Spain with a view to discovering the cause of the explosion. The circumstances of the case might have raised an irritating controversy but for the waiver by Spain of all jurisdictional questions, and her voluntary offer to regard the wreck of the *Maine* as extraterritorial and as part of the sovereignty of the United States.

"No case is on record presenting exactly the same legal questions as to the status of war-ships in foreign waters as are presented by the case of the *Maine*. The acquiescence of Spain in the contention of this Government that a national vessel retains her extraterritorial status under all circumstances may therefore be considered as having established a precedent that will be incorporated as a general principle into the law of nations."—*The Record, Philadelphia.*


PERISH THE THOUGHT!
Spain: "Now, Do I Look Like One Who Would Go and Sink a Ship and Drown a Lot of Men?"
APOLOGY
SPAIN
WILL IT COME TO THIS?
IT IS BETTER TO KNOW THAN TO THINK

CUBAN SITUATION IN CARTOONS.

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No Joint Investigation.—"The Spanish Government requested that a joint investigation be made, but it was decided at Washington to proceed on a different basis, as is shown by the following despatch from Assistant Secretary Day to Consul-General Lee:

"'The Government of the United States has already begun an investigation as to the causes of the disaster to the *Maine*, through officers of the navy specially appointed for that purpose, which will proceed independently. This Government will afford every facility it can to the Spanish authorities in whatever investigation they may see fit to make upon their part.'

This despatch is destined to figure in future chapters on international law. It insists on the right of independent inquiry by the Government owning the submerged war-ship, but also it concedes that the Government within whose marine jurisdiction the vessel lies the right to investigate the abnormal situation created by the disaster.

"Here we have two concessions, both of which form interesting precedents, and both of which are apparently well founded in reason and justice. The submerged ship is still a part of the sovereignty of the United States, but, inasmuch as in her present condition she is a menace to safe navigation in Havana harbor and was blown up under extraordinary circumstances tending to cast suspicion upon the good faith of the local government's hospitality, she is also a proper and legitimate subject for official inquiry by that local government. It does not follow, however, that the two governments must conduct their inquiries jointly; at least, such is our Government's contention, and this is not the least interesting phase of the situation. There might be room for controversy at this point by Spain—she insisting that the extraterritoriality of our ship did not confer upon us the right of making an independent investigation in advance of her own, or other than joint—and how Spain will act on this question is yet to be determined.

"As these are fine points in embryonic international law, it were somewhat presumptuous, perhaps, for any one to express a hasty opinion upon them, yet the position assumed by our Government certainly seems to be logically sound. It is a condition of two rights, conceded by both sides; each side can exercise its right unhindered by the other, but neither is compelled to work with the other."—*The Republican, Springfield.*

NEGRO MURDER AND POLITICS.

THE most atrocious case of mob murder this year is reported from Lake City, Williamsburg county, S. C. An account of the outrage as developed at the coroner's inquest shows that Fraser B. Baker, the negro postmaster of the town, was awakened after midnight, February 22, to find his house burning up. With his family he attempted to escape from the burning building and was shot dead at his door. Other shots killed his baby boy in the arms of his mother and wounded her. Two daughters and a son were also wounded and two of them may die. The charred bodies of Baker and the baby were found in the ashes of his home (the post-office) next morning.

Baker had been recently appointed postmaster of the town, and protests against the appointment had been made to the President by citizens of the town and by Senators and Representatives of the State. He had been threatened more than once, and not more than a week before the massacre his house had been the target for bullets from a concealed mob. It will likewise be remembered that Postmaster Loftin, a negro who still holds office at Hogansville, Ga., was seriously wounded last year by a mob (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, October 9). The Lake City affair is universally condemned by the press, altho the policy of appointing negroes to office is questioned, not alone in the South. Several mass-meetings in the State have passed resolutions condemning the outrage. We confine quotations on the subject to Southern journals.

Lynched the Wrong Parties.—"There is no negro postmaster at Lake City now. His appointment was a serious mistake and the manner of his removal most deplorable. We agreed with the people of Lake City and vicinity in their protest to Washington concerning the appointment of an ignorant negro to an official position from which he could give more offense than from almost any other, but we must part company right here. We can not approve the lynching which put aside the objectionable official. In the cause of justice and humanity we must condemn it.

"The intention of the mob was not the massacre that really ensued. It was Baker alone that it was intended to murder, and the killing of his child and maiming of the balance of his family were incident thereto, but are serious crimes just the same. It is for the reason that a mob is not only merciless, but senseless that we oppose lynch law. Too often the innocent suffer and the guilty escape.

"There are others than Carolinians, however, who are in a measure responsible for this dirty business. Mark Hanna and those who made McKinley President by negro voters in the St. Louis convention can take the matter home to themselves. What right have these disreputable political prostitutes to inflict negroes on the white communities of the South when they do not act in a similar manner in the North? We hear of no such insults being offered in Ohio to white people. In our opinion, the people of Lake City lynched the wrong parties. If they could have laid hands on Hanna and the others who are responsible for the attempt to elevate a negro above a race that the Almighty made superior, there might have been some justification for a killing.

"The negro Baker, however, only acted on a most common principle of human nature—he saw a position and grasped it, directed by the same spirit of ambition and gain that moves the actions of all white people as well.

"The punishment meted out was not only undeserved and brutal, but is a reflection on our civilization that no amount of apology or explanation can wipe out."—*The Register, Columbia, S. C.*

Federal Punishment Called For.—"The lynching of the postmaster at Lake City was unquestionably the result of a conspiracy to prevent the negro Baker from holding the office of postmaster. His murderers can, at least, be prosecuted and punished for this offense even if they can not be prosecuted and punished for the graver crimes of arson and murder; and we believe that the court would hold, in the circumstances, that they could also be punished for murder. The jurisdiction of the United States in this case is clear and undeniable, and in the interest of justice we urge upon the federal authorities their duty and obligation in the premises.

"We accept the governor's offer of a reward of $500 for the members of the Lake City mob as indicating in some measure the degree of the offense in his eyes. It is inadequate to the purpose in view. The reports agree that there were several hundred men in the mob, and the governor's offer amounts to something over a dollar a head, and we doubt that the reward would be worth the risk. And even if all the members of the mob should be apprehended it would be idle to look for their conviction in the state courts. The only hope of the outraged law in this case is in the United States courts where the trial would be free from local political influences; and that is where the mob should be tried."—*The News and Courier, Charleston, S. C.*

Negro Rule Can Not be Admitted.—"The placing of a negro in official position over white men of the South is a criminal outrage of the most flagrant type, in the light of the sentiments and traditions of the people and in view of all the conditions known to exist. It is an insult vicious and brutal. It is well known that the Southern people will never allow the negro to dominate or control their affairs, nor to reach a plane of social equality with them. This is a final and immutable resolve, and it will be maintained against every effort, and to the last extremity. The history of reconstruction of the Southern States shows what our people will do to maintain white supremacy, and the half that they are prepared to do has not been shown. The people of the South may be exterminated, but they will never be ruled by negroes, nor will they admit the negro to an equality with them.

"These things are known. As well might the national Administration try to whiten the negro's skin as to attempt to bring him to a plane with the sovereign race of the South. Yet appointment to office, placing in position of authority of the negro, is an attempt to accomplish or to approach an accomplishment of this impossible result. It is useless, wanton, and brutal. Better accept the verdict once for all, recognize the inevitable, and admin-

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ister in justice, than to goad, insult, and outrage a people, with no prospect of worthy result.

"Murder can never be condoned. Lynch law is barbarous. The killing of Baker and the wounding of his defenseless wife and his innocent children were fearful and savage acts. The perpetrators of the crime should be sought out and punished. But what of those who gave opportunity to the crime? What of the high officials of the national Government, who sent Baker to his fate? Shall they go unpunished?"—*The Post, Charleston, S. C.*

Heads Bowed Under the Lash of Scorn.—"The race pride of these men, it seems, was wounded by the appointment of a negro postmaster; so to blazon to the world their high resentment and prove the injustice of thus giving office to an inferior, they place themselves on the moral and religious level of the aboriginal African, they attack at midnight under cover of darkness—the many against the few, the strong against the weak and helpless—and they assassinate indiscriminately man, woman, and child! Where are the white man's characteristics in this deed? Where is his superiority shown? Where do we find the fruits of his thousands of years of civilization and self-control and cultivated conscience?

"A negro postmaster! Is that something to resent with assassination? Who are these people in Williamsburg county that they can not endure that which the most refined, the most sensitive citizenship of the State has endured with patience and dignity in years gone by? Columbia had a negro postmaster for eight years. Charleston had a negro postmaster for eight years. Dozens of South Carolina towns have had negro postmasters. It was offensive—necessarily so—but who was hurt by it? None but the party that appointed them.

"But, even if the affront and the injury were unbearable, who should be held responsible for it? Not the poor negro, who in taking office accepted what it was his right to accept; not his wife, his children, his helpless babe. Rather the white man, the state boss, who had him appointed; still rather the President, who made the appointment, or the national boss, who made the bargain for votes at St. Louis, which has resulted in the choice of negroes for federal offices.

"We are ashamed and sickened. For the sake of South Carolina, her good name, her pride, and her manhood, we would have preferred to see her lose a thousand sons in battle than have to record such a coward's crime as that which stains her to-day. All of us have to bear the disgrace of it—the million innocent alike with the mob. For years and decades it will be a taunt in the mouths of our enemies, and we must bow our heads under the lash of their scorn."—*The State, Columbia, S. C.*

"When the line of the law and its reverential observance is once broken down, all restraint is thrown to the winds and the spirit of anarchy is let loose.

"This time it was a negro and his whole family of six who were either killed or wounded, because he was disagreeable as a postmaster—the next time it may be some objectionable white person who may be easier settled with by a mob than in court.

"We think it best, if mob law is to prevail, that it should be so announced, and let every man take care of himself as best he can; but it is unfair and even cowardly to lull persons into a sense of security with the idea that the law will protect them when it is only a sham, and when the lawless spirit is as effective as if anarchy were the avowed principle of society. One side or the other should be taken; either is preferable to the deceptive and treacherous middle ground."—*The Times, Richmond, Va.*

SALE OF THE KANSAS PACIFIC RAILROAD.

FOLLOWING the sale of the Union Pacific Railroad last November, the Government has sold the Kansas Pacific Railroad and has only its interest in the Central Pacific system yet to dispose of. The Kansas Pacific was bought at foreclosure in the court at Topeka, Kans., on February 16, by the same reorganization committee which bought the Fovernment's claim on the Union Pacific. There was but one bidder, the Government having decided that it would not be a bidder since the reorganization committee raised its guaranty of a minimum bid from about $2,500,000 to $6,303,000, the figure at which the road was purchased and which covers the principal of the Government's claim. Opposition to this disposal of the Kansas Pacific appeared in Congress in the shape of resolutions in the Senate opposing confirmation of the sale and inquiring by what right the Government permitted this transaction to be effected, at a loss of interest amounting to over $325,000 more than the sum of the principal. Attorney-General Griggs replied that the Government was complying with the decree of the court; that if the sale were postponed there existed no assurance that there would be any bid equal to the principal of the Government's debt; the chief difficulty in bidding in the property for the Government would be that the Government was not authorized to operate the railroad in its own name or through its agencies, serious doubt existing as to whether the court would, after such a sale, appoint and continue receivers for the mere purpose of operating the road on behalf of the Government. Hence the sale would proceed, open to any bidder under the terms of the court's decree, the Government having only agreed to ask for no postponement of the sale upon the guaranty of a minimum covering the principal of the debt.

Inexcusable Government Loss.—"If the Kansas Pacific was not worth the Government's claim plus the first mortgage, why did it permit a divided sale of the Union Pacific and Kansas Pacific last fall, when it was possible to compel the reorganization syndicate to stand to a joint bid for the Government's interest in both properties, and so make the Government's stronger claim in Union Pacific carry through the weaker claim in Kansas Pacific? Attorney-General McKenna justified the Administration's course then by declaring and undertaking to prove that the Kansas Pacific was worth more than enough to cover the whole Government claim of nearly $13,000,000. But now the Administration says the Kansas Pacific is not worth more than enough to cover $6,303,000 of the public claim, and prepares to surrender the remaining $6,600,000 to the syndicate. If it had deliberately set out to trick the public, could it have done much more?

"Much is made of the fact that the Government is to get the principal of the debt from the Kansas Pacific in full. The President, in his annual message, placed emphasis on the desirability of enforcing at least the payment of the principal of $6,303,000. The impression obviously sought to be made by this talk is that the Government will really lose nothing. Its loan to Kansas Pacific is likened by implication to an ordinary investment which did not yield the expected or promised interest, but the principal of which was recovered by the investor.

"But the case is quite different. The Government has actually paid out the interest money which remains unpaid by the Kansas Pacific to the amount of $6,600,000. It would be not a constructive but an actual loss. The Government issued the subsidy bonds which were sold by the railroad company to private investors, and it has paid the interest on those bonds to the amount specified, without compensation from the road, and must now pay the principal of the bonds.

"How absurd, therefore, to distinguish between the principal and the interest in the settlement of the claim, as if the interest loss would be constructive and not actual. It smacks of an effort to throw dust in the eyes of the people, and make the bargain appear to be what it is not. The simple fact is that preparations have been made to hand over $6,600,000 of public money or property to the Union Pacific syndicate."—*The Republican (Ind.), Springfield.*

Government the Gainer.—"The wise and conservative action of the Union Pacific reorganization committee has defeated this project [government control and management, 'the worst form of paternalism'], for the present at least, tho we presume another effort in the same direction will be made when a crisis in the affairs of the Central Pacific is reached. . . . . .

"As for the Government—people have forgotten about it—instead of being loser or sufferer in any way, it was immeasurably the gainer at every point [in transactions with projectors of the Pacific roads]. Its profits have been incalculable. In 1862, and

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for five years previous, the average annual cost of transporting the mails, troops and munitions of war from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast was more than $7,000,000. Between the Missouri River and the Pacific coast was a vast stretch of uninhabited country, roamed over by Indian tribes, constant wars with whom entailed large expenditures. In this state of affairs the Government said, in effect, to the enterprising and adventurous men who undertook the work: 'Build a railroad for us from the Missouri River to the Pacific coast. You shall have government aid in the form of $60,000,000 in 6-per-cent. bonds and half the bonds brought into market by the enterprise. One-half the present cost of transportation of mails, army supplies, munitions of war, etc., will cover the interest, and the enhanced value of land brought into market will give us additional profit.' The road was built. Instead of paying for mail carriage, in accordance with the contract, the Post-office Department made its own price and compelled acceptance. The transportation charges failed to meet the interest as it accrued, and arrears began to accumulate under the charter provision postponing interest payments to the maturity of the bonds, except as they should be provided for by transportation accounts and 5 per cent. of the net earnings. Then there was trouble. Congress began a policy of unfriendly legislation and petty interference that has continued to this day. Since the completion of the roads Congress has never done a thing in their interest, and has never failed to embrace every opportunity to hamper and cripple them.

"Meantime an end has been made of costly Indian wars; the vast unoccupied spaces between the Missouri River and the Pacific coast have been peopled and made enormously productive, and the profit to the Government from the sale of lands brought into the market has been almost incalculable. It is in the face of facts like these, or perhaps through ignorance of them, that sensational newspapers and demagogs in Congress are talking about the sale of the Kansas Pacific to the reorganization committee at a sum which railroad experts agree is a fair valuation of the property as 'a steal.' Nonsense! If the Government had never recovered a penny of its advances, it would still have been the gainer in the transaction by an enormous sum. As it is, it gets back nearly the whole of the debts due it from the Union and Kansas Pacific, in addition to all the profits it has been reaping from their construction for the last thirty years."—*The Tribune* (*Rep.*), *New York.*

Gain by the Sale.—"The terms on which the Government disposes of its interest in the Kansas Pacific are not as advantageous as those it managed to secure on the Union Pacific transaction. In that transaction it lost nothing, whereas in the present one it loses all the accrued and unpaid interest, amounting to $6,624,107. The officials realize, however, that the amount secured, added to the amount of the first liens which it would have been compelled to lift, represents the full value of the road at the present time. It is to be remembered, too, that the amount brought by the two sales so far effected is about $20,000,000 in excess of that which the Government was willing to accept less than two years ago. What it is worth to the nation, politically and financially, to escape government operation and management of a railroad can not easily be computed. When the Government disposes of its interest in the Central Pacific hearty congratulations will be in order. The subsidized Pacific lines are an object-lesson against government aid to private enterprises, against a policy which might force industrial functions on the Government." — *The Evening Post* (*Ind.*), *Chicago.*

What Reorganizers Will Get.—"Two weeks ago it was currently reported that the reorganization committee, for fear of governmental interference, had raised its bid to an amount equivalent to the principal and one half of the interest. This would have benefited the Treasury $9,481,636. But it was asserted at that time, and assurances to the same effect were given to Congress, that the Administration did not consider this sufficient and would take steps to postpone the sale, in the full confidence of securing a bidder who would give enough to clear off the full incumbrance. Thus, and thus only, was congressional action averted. Now it appears that this movement on the part of the Executive was not inconsistent with the probability that a different and final arrangement had been reached several weeks earlier.

"It is significant that the Government, the second-mortgage claimant, loses about $7,000,000 on its claim, while the first-mortgage creditors, under the reorganization, will receive in cash and securities, based on Saturday's Wall-Street prices, 128 per cent. of their claim, and the holders of the third mortgage will get 115 per cent. of theirs."—*The Times* (*Ind. Dem.*), *Washington.*

EX-PRESIDENT HARRISON ON THE OBLIGATIONS OF WEALTH.

EX-PRESIDENT BENJAMIN HARRISON, speaking at the Union League Club's celebration of Washington's Birthday in Chicago, took the ground that evasion of taxes by wealth is at the root of evils in this republic, and he urged just taxation on personal property, with supplementary succession or inheritance taxes, as a remedy. He pointed to the life of Washington as teaching "no lesson more strongly than that the citizen is under obligation to serve the state; never to shirk his full share of burden and labor and sacrifice, but rather to do more." He proclaimed that the leaders of needed reforms in tax laws ought to be our men of wealth and the managers of great corporations; they ought to show not only a willingness, but a zeal, to bear their full proportionate share of all public burden. "If they do not," said he, "the sense of injury is so strong that ways will be found to exact more than is equal. To do justice is the best safeguard against injustice."

The ex-President emphasized the prevalence of agitation which goes beneath the surface of conditions. There is a feeling that equality of opportunity and of right has been submerged. Accumulated property and corporate power are more bitterly attacked than ever before. It seems to many that the pursuit of cheapness has reached a stage where only enormous combinations of capital doing enormous business are sure of returns. "The word 'wealth,'" said he, "in its modern use has suffered a limitation if not a perversion. Originally and strictly it means weal or welfare, external happiness. When Paul admonished the Corinthian Christians, 'Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth,' he was not anticipating the modern law of the wheat pit and the stock exchange." He contended that wealth should be neither the object of our enmity nor the basis of our consideration; men must get together and use facts, not rhetoric. "Equality, not of conditions, not of natural endowment, but of rights, is the foundation stone of our governmental structure. And as a corollary, necessary and imperative, to this doctrine of an equality of right is the doctrine of a proportionate and ratable contribution to the cost of administering the Government. The duty of the state to protect life, liberty, and property is conditioned upon a fair contribution to the cost of government. A full and conscientious discharge of that duty by the citizen is one of the tests of good citizenship. To evade that duty is a moral delinquency, an unpatriotic act. If we do not hold by this rule of proportion, which I think is an essential part of the definition of taxes, then everything becomes subject to the whim of the legislature."

Mr. Harrison directed his remarks particularly to the prosperous, well-to-do people, especially of the great cities, suggesting that "one of the conditions of the security of wealth is a proportionate and full contribution to the expenses of the state and local governments. It is not only wrong, but it is unsafe, to make a show in our homes and on the street that is not made in the tax returns." To quote further:

"For very many years an opinion has been prevalent that the great bulk of the personal property of the States, especially of the class denominated 'securities,' including stocks, bonds, notes, mortgages, and such like, has escaped taxation. With a very few exceptions the great fortunes in this country are invested in such securities. The delinquency appears to be located largely in our great cities. Recent investigations of students of political science, and recent tables prepared by state officials, have disclosed an appalling condition of things. The evil seems to have been progressing until, in some of our great centers of population and wealth, these forms of personal property seem to have been almost eliminated from the tax list. In New York State the proportion of personal property assessed for taxation is only about 12 per cent. of the total amount of property taxed. Yet Controller Roberts, of that State, expressed the opinion that the taxable

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personal property owned in the State is at least equal to the amount of real estate. Illinois and many other States present the same condition, differing only in degree.

"It is easy to see how this offense against patriotism has grown to such proportions. The very sense that inequality is injustice has promoted it. One man sees that his neighbor is not making a conscientious tax return, and that if he returns his property honestly he will pay disproportionately. The result is that his conscience finds a salve in the saying, 'Everybody does it.' It is probably also true that under the tax laws of many of our States double taxation results, and taxpayers take it upon themselves to remedy this defect in the law—not by the methods prescribed in the Constitution, but by leaving off from their tax returns such stocks and securities as they supposed to be taxed in other States.

"The most serious aspect of this state of things is the injury which results to those who practise these fraudulent evasions. The man who is robbed has not lost his character or self-respect, but the other man has lost both. Taxes are a debt of the highest obligation, and no casuist can draw a sound moral distinction between the man who hides his property or makes a false return, in order to escape the payment of his debt to the State, and the man who conceals his property from his private creditors. Nor should it be more difficult to follow the defaulter in the one case than in the other. If our taxes were farmed out to an individual or to a corporation, they would be collected as fully as private debts are now collected. There would be a vigilant and unrelenting pursuit. The civil and criminal processes of the law would be invoked with effect, just as they were against fraudulent debtors under the bankrupt law.

"When to this enormous and crying evil is added the corruption which, it is alleged, has characterized the appraisements of real estate, we have a condition of things with which we dare not palter. We must inaugurate, and at once, a system that shall equalize tax burdens. The men of wealth in our great communities should lead the movement. This great club, organized as a rallying center for loyalty and patriotic citizenship, should hear a call as loud and imperative as that which came to it during the years of the Civil War.

"Mr. Lincoln's startling declaration that this country could not continue to exist half slave and half free may be paraphrased today by saying that this country can not continue to exist half-taxed and half-free. This sense of inequality breathes a fierce and unmeasuring anger—creates classes, intensifies social differences, and makes men willing to pay their debts in half dollars. The just sacredness of these money obligations, the rights of the holders to be paid in money of full value, will be clearer to these angry men if they see that these securities are paying fully their lawful taxes.

"Where is the moral distinction between the act of putting one's hand in his neighbor's pocket and clandestinely abstracting his pocket-book, and the fraudulent shifting of a debt that I owe to another?

"If there is not enough public virtue left in our communities to make tax frauds discreditable, if there is not virility enough left in our laws and the administration of justice in our courts to bring to punishment those who defraud the State and their neighbors, if crimes of fraud may stalk unrebuked and unpunished in our streets, how long will it be until crimes of violence make insecure the fortunes that have refused to contribute ratably to the cost of maintaining social order? The failures which have accompanied, in an increased ratio, the attempt to collect the personal property tax have led many tax-reformers to favor its total abolition and the substitution of other forms of taxation. The failure of the wealthy holders of these intangible securities to pay their just proportion of the cost of government has stimulated a demand for special forms of taxation and for progressive taxation, with a view in some measure to recoup to the community the losses which are inflicted by evasive or fraudulent tax returns. These efforts should serve as a warning. The people will not consent that this state of things shall be accepted as a permanent condition. If we are to leave no taxes save such as in their nature necessarily exclude concealment and bribery, what tax will remain? If we admit the disgraceful conclusion that the state of public and private morals has become such in our country that the wealthy may not be brought under the law and compelled to yield it reverence and obedience, have we not confessed the failure of republican institutions?"

The tax upon imports was confided wholly to the federal Government by the Constitution, since experience had shown that the separate States in competition practically nullified the power to levy imports. State tax laws suffer similarly by reason of real or simulated changes of residence; yet federal control would not easily be secured from the States. A convention of state tax commissioners to discuss the problem is as far as Mr. Harrison goes by way of suggestion in this line. But he says:

"I do not believe that it is impossible so to stir the consciences of our people, so to stimulate the independence and courage of our assessors and of our courts and prosecutors as to secure a fairly general enforcement of the personal property tax. I know that men hesitate to call a neighbor to judgment in this matter. We have too much treated the matter of a man's tax return as a personal matter. We have put his transactions with the State on much the same level with his transactions with his bank, but that is not the true basis. Each citizen has a personal interest, a pecuniary interest, in the tax return of his neighbor. We are members of a great partnership, and it is the right of each to know what every other member is contributing to the partnership and what he is taking from it. It is not a private affair; it is a public concern of the first importance.

"Perhaps there should be a general proclamation of amnesty and a fresh start. We should discard these old notions, and, wiping the slate off, proclaim a tax renaissance. Every agency that deals with public and social questions should lend its help. The grand jury should be charged to investigate and to indict the delinquents. Returns and assessments must be honest. If there are inequalities in the law they must be remedied by legislation, and not by the usurpation of the individual. I think we must assume that there are very few, if any, of our States prepared to consent to the abolition of our personal-property tax.

"As a supplemental tax, levied within the requirements of equality and uniformity, a succession or inheritance tax may be well enough, if the state constitution permits it; but the principle of progression, a higher rate for larger estates, seems to me to be inconsistent with that rule of proportion and equality which should characterize all taxation. The practical question, the one our people must solve, and solve speedily, is the enforcement of the personal-property tax and the equalization of real-estate assessments. Perhaps the State might declare and maintain an estoppel against the claim of any man or his heirs to property, the ownership of which had been disclaimed in the tax returns."

Degrees of Patriotism.—"Ex-President Harrison has earned a reputation for saying the thing that should be said so well that it can not easily be improved upon. His address of yesterday will not detract from that reputation.

"There are various degrees of patriotism, as every one knows. There are people who are anxious to fight for their country with or without provocation, people who are willing to fight when they are needed, others who would only go slowly to war through a sense of duty, and some who would serve only under compulsion. In war times it is not difficult to measure the varying types of patriotic ardor. In times of peace it is.

"But that class described by the ex-President exemplifies the antithesis of all patriotism, the rich men who use every artifice to dodge their share of taxation. Taxation is often higher than it should be, and it is then a patriotic duty to make every effort to reduce it to the necessities of economic government. In that the rich and poor may join as they might in any holy cause. Yet whatever the rate of taxation may be it represents the burden of public protection and administration. It is the duty of every man to bear his share of it—the duty as much of the rich man to pay a proportion of his great wealth as for the poor man to give from his poverty. The one who tries to evade that duty is a moral coward, a traitor, and a bad citizen."—*The Dispatch* (*Ind. Rep.*), *Pittsburg*.

Mischievous Untruths.—"Our own opinion is strong—tho it is necessarily not capable of exact demonstration—that, taking the country as a whole, giving due weight to the extent of the population and the great variety of interests existing, there is less that is bitter and threatening in men's minds than at any previous period.

"Whatever counsel the ex-President has to offer to the rich, or to the 'well-to-do,' as he expresses it, we think it must be consid-

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ered quite apart from this statement of the condition of the public mind. The sum of that counsel is that they ought to pay fair taxes on all that they possess and not shirk the part that is levied on personal property, and so can easily be evaded. That is good advice for any one, rich or not. Mr. Harrison is quite right when he says that taxation is a debt which can not honestly be dodged. Unfortunately, the average citizen, whether rich or poor, does not act on this principle, and all efforts to compel him to do so have so far failed. Legislatures have ignored that fact in laying taxes, and have insisted on collecting what can be evaded. So long as they continue doing so, Mr. Harrison will but waste his breath in denouncing the dishonesty of tax evasion. Could he suggest a tax that can not be evaded—and such a one is entirely feasible—he would be doing greater service."—*The Times* (*Ind.*), *New York.*

Harrison's Opportunity.—"The nearest approach to a direct and practical suggestion was thrown out in a casual way. 'Perhaps,' he said, 'the State might declare and maintain an estoppel against the claim of any man or his heirs to property the ownership of which had been disclaimed in the tax returns.' Considering the high standing of General Harrison as a constitutional lawyer, such a suggestion as this from his lips means a great deal. He is not the man to drop a remark of such gravity, however casually, without having carefully considered the matter. In the recent argument before the Supreme Court of the United States on the inheritance tax Harrison was retained to oppose the tax. If his suggestion should be carried out it would be much more drastic than the inheritance tax of this or any other State.

"If General Harrison will allow himself to be elected to the legislature of Indiana and make a specialty of framing a revenue bill he might do the whole country a great and highly patriotic service. During his six years in the Senate and four years in the White House he was confronted with no more difficult and fundamental problem than this of state revenue reform. If he could lead in a genuine 'tax renaissance' he would rival John Quincy Adams in the achievement of a great post-Presidential reputation."—*The Inter Ocean* (*Rep.*), *Chicago.*

Tariff and Income Tax.—"The ex-President, for obvious reasons, confined his attack to state and local tax systems. But all that he said of them is doubly true when applied to the national taxes. A more unequal scheme of taxation than that of a high tariff has yet to be devised. It not only taxes men with no regard to their means, to benefits received, or ability to pay, but in addition it increases the cost of most of the necessaries of life. It licenses a privileged class of tax-collectors, and the bounties they exact go not into the national treasury but into their own pockets. Its burdens, direct and indirect, fall with especial hardship upon the poor, because a tax upon consumption is hard to escape and is based upon necessity rather than upon property.

"General Harrison says: 'We must inaugurate, and at once, a system that shall equalize tax burdens,' and adds that 'men of wealth in our great communities should lead the movement.' It is a wise and timely warning. Yet when, a few years ago, the Democrats passed a law to secure a small measure of justice—the income tax—'men of wealth' combined to secure its nullification by the Supreme Court. They forgot or defied the truth expressed by the ex-President, that 'one of the conditions of the security of wealth is a proportionate and full contribution to the expenses of the Government.'"—*The World* (*Ind. Dem.*), *New York.*

Honesty and Equality.—"There is, however, one point which, while it does not constitute a justification for the tax-dodger, ought not to be left out of account. If people could only feel that they were getting value received for their taxes they would be much more ready to pay them. Unfortunately, they can not feel this. American city governments are notoriously inefficient and corrupt. There are shining exceptions, but the rule is as we have said. What incentive is there to pour money into the treasury of a city to be squandered for corrupt purposes? So it will be seen that it is a large question that Mr. Harrison raises, involving many considerations. That it is serious will be admitted by all.

"The remedy is in the hands of the people. They can have honest government if they really want it badly enough to work to get it, and we believe that in time the appeal to the conscience of the American people, and if not that, certainly the appeal to their fears, will have a marked effect in decreasing the tax frauds. General Harrison spoke a much-needed word. His speech ought to mark the beginning of an agitation for better things. The end to be sought is not simply honest payment of taxes, but a real equality of all men before the law."—*The News* (*Ind.*), *Indianapolis.*

Waiting on Conscience Ineffectual.—"The same sort of appeal has been made a hundred times without the least effect, and there is not the smallest reason to suppose that it will be more effective when uttered by Mr. Harrison than when proposed by John Smith or Adam Smith. . . . If we wait till the consciences of the owners are aroused to the point of spurring them to walk into the assessor's office and make true declarations, we shall wait forever. Some method must be devised in lieu of this—some method that presents itself to the eye of the assessor and that can not be escaped. One such, and the most promising of all, is that proposed by the Massachusetts Tax Commission, of taking the rental value of his dwelling as an approximate index of the value of a man's wealth and making that the basis of the tax he shall pay on personal property. This plan was recommended by the New York commission of which David A. Wells was chairman, thirty-six years ago. It has been in force for half a century in France. The indorsement which it has now received by the Massachusetts commission ought to be heeded not only by that commonwealth, but by all the States of the Union."—*The Evening Post* (*Ind.*), *New York.*

GERMAN-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS ON WAR AND "YELLOW JOURNALISM."

GERMAN-AMERICAN newspapers publish conservative accounts of the *Maine* disaster, refuse to advocate war, and have faith that the Administration will furnish reliable news as soon as reliable information can be had. They assert that 99 per cent. of the news furnished by papers professing to spend money on special correspondents, divers, etc., at Havana, is pure fabrication. The practise of New York journals, which call a tug that is paid to display their name as their "special" or "very own," amuses the German-American press. The New York *Morgen Journal*, the German edition of W. R. Hearst's *Journal*, is the only German-American paper at hand that refuses to defer judgment and asserts that the *Maine* was destroyed intentionally. This paper said, on the strength of early despatches:

"The latest revelations thoroughly shake the theory that an accident only is the cause of the ship's loss. The divers found a hole, eight inches in diameter, which had been caused by a missile, in the bottom of the ship. The question now is only, who is the criminal, for torpedoes do not drift about aimlessly in Havana harbor. . . . Our Administration seems to be perfectly at sea. True, a commission of naval officers has been appointed, but since the above discovery has been made the Spanish police surround the wreck, so that nothing disagreeable to the Spaniards can be discovered."

We condense the following from the *Staats-Zeitung*, New York:

Who would profit by a war? These same "typically" American papers. They could sell "extras" to their hearts' content. Yet it is not impossible that the present incident may cause a revulsion of feeling against "yellow journalism." Its servants are such very barefaced liars, and so absolutely ignorant of the subjects they write about, that we can not think so intelligent a people as the Americans believe them. Look at the picture of the *Vizcaya* firing twenty bombs at once into the sky. Has the man who put that in ever seen a gun fired off? The opinions of naval officers are counted as nothing; but Congressmen who never saw a ship are quoted as high authorities. "Regulars and militia are being concentrated in Florida." Who says so? And what in the world are they to do there? Send all our defenders to Cuba, we suppose. There is a hole made by a torpedo in the *Maine*. Is there? What a pity the Government does not know it! "Modern journalism" they call it. It may be modern, but it is just as much "journalism" as the business of the "green-goods" man is that of

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a banker. It is insulting to the American people in general and to New York in particular that the *Vizcaya* has to be guarded by the police. The people of New York have to thank themselves for this slap in the face, because they support "modern" journalism.

The *Wächter und Anzeiger*, Cleveland, Ohio, fears for the future of the United States. It cites the case of France before the war of 1870, thinks our "jingoes" behave, if possible, even worse, and remarks that only a nation which is unfit and unprepared to go to war has the temerity to despise a possible enemy as much as the "jingoes" profess to despise Spain. The paper says:

"Spain buys war-ships, fits merchant steamers as cruisers, and prepares in every way to sell her life as dearly as possible. . . . We would not hesitate a moment to urge war ourselves if our jingoes were moved by the same noble, unselfish impulses which caused Lafayette and his French friends to help us. But the jingoes themselves only wish for war 'because it would,' as they say, 'stimulate business.' And, tho we would not value their character more, we would be willing to acknowledge that they are at least courageous if we did not know that the very men who are yelling for war do not for a moment intend to do any fighting themselves. Every one of those howlers in the editorial chairs has still to prove he has courage. They ought to be pressed into the navy."

The *Wächter und Anzeiger* further remarks that, as the people who have provided Uncle Sam with his navy are not patriots but "business" men, and as they seem to think that it is not wise to do good work because repairs stimulate "business," it would be well for the American people to examine whether their country could make war upon any other or not. The *Volksblatt*, Cincinnati, says:

"In European papers we often read that such and such an item has not been published 'because publication would unnecessarily hurt the feelings of the persons concerned.' Still oftener we read that the paper 'does not publish particulars or rumors concerning the question out of consideration for the welfare of the people.' Self-restraint of this kind is regarded as want of enterprise by the 'American' journalist. The greater misery an item of the kind they call news may cause, the more it is sensational and 'businesslike.' . . . We will suppose, for the moment, that the *Maine* really was sunk by criminals. Would that be a cause for war? Over a hundred people were killed when the American insurance swindler Thomas's infernal machine exploded among the cargo in Bremerhaven ere the ship had left the port. Yet Germany would not have been justified in declaring war."

The *Volksblatt* is sorry that the *Maine* was sent to Havana to please the "jingoes" and irritate the Spaniards. If the American ship had not gone there, so argues the paper, Spain would not have been forced to return the compliment, and we would have been spared the disgrace of having to guard the stranger as if the whole population of New York were bloodthirsty criminals. The *Volks Zeitung*, New York, a Socialist paper, points out that the organs edited for the benefit of the wealthy classes do not assist in the "jingo" demonstrations, "while the miserable sheets which grow fat on the penny of the poor man try to rush the country to war, altho it is just the workingman who suffers most in times of war."

The *Westliche Post*, St. Louis, and the *Seebote*, Milwaukee, point out that we are not ready to go to war, and think we should be glad that nobody wants to fight with us. The latter paper says:

"War would be all the more disagreeable to the United States as we are very badly prepared for it. The occasion may arise which forces a civilized people to declare war, but that is not the case with us just now. It is rumored in Washington that the Navy Department keeps the public in the dark with regard to the state of our fleet. The many accidents which happen to our ships certainly seem to indicate that the discipline is somewhat lax and that the value of the ships is rather doubtful. We have no dry-dock for our battle-ships, and our stock of war material would be exhausted in a few weeks. A few of our ports possess defenses, but in case of war an enemy's squadron would easily find our weakest spots."

The *Freie Press*, Chicago, says:

"Suppose the investigation proves that the *Maine* went down because the coal in her bunkers caught fire, as did the coal on board the *Cincinnati*. Where will the people of the United States be with their foolish howl that 'Spain must explain'? Is it for Spain to explain why our ships are badly constructed? If we had the universal military service system, and all those shouters had to carry their own skins to market in case of war, there would be less noise and more dignity and common sense."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

OUR PRESENT FOREIGN POLICY.

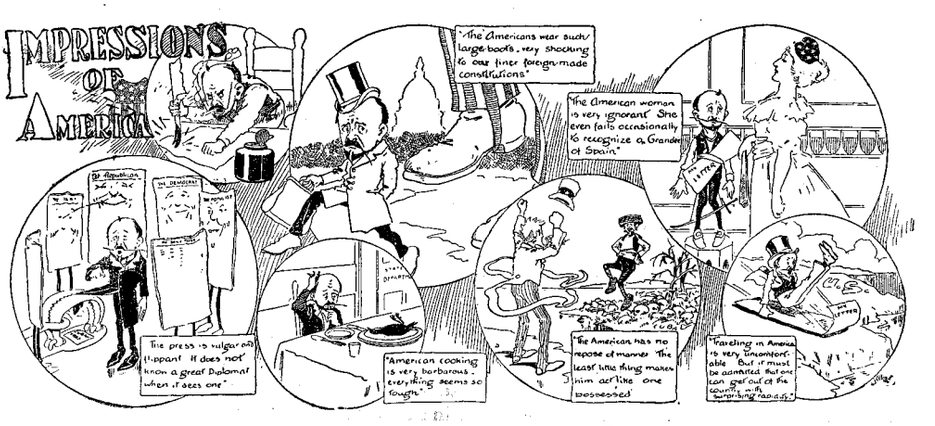
UNCLE SAM: "Say, Mac, where are we at now? MCKINLEY: "We're still at sea; but pull away. I think we're on the right track."
—*The Post, Cincinnati.*

ACCORDING to later dictionaries, patriotism is inability to wait for the facts.—*The News, Detroit.*

LET'S send another war-ship to Havana and see if the same sort of accident happens to it.—*The Journal, Chicago.*

WITH proper support from the voters, Governor Pingree believes he can induce the railroads to grant some measure of autonomy to Michigan.—*The News, Detroit.*

GENERAL FROG—"Tell ze truth! Mon Dieu! Nevaire!" Maître Champagne—"Upon what do you base your refusal, Monsieur le Général?" General Frog:—"Sacre! Ze honaire of ze French armée is at stake, monsieur!"—*The North American, Philadelphia.*


IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA
"The Americans wear such large boots, very shocking to one liner foreign-made constitutions"
"The American woman is very ignorant. She even fails occasionally to recognize a Grandee of Spain."
"The press is vulgar and impudent. It does not know a great Diplomat when it sees one"
"American cooking is very barbarous; everything seems so tough."
"The American has no repose of manner. The least little thing makes him act like one possessed"
"Yachting in America is very fashionable. But it must be admitted that one can get out of the country with surprising readiness"

EXTRACTS FROM MR. DE LOME'S NEXT BOOK ON AMERICA.—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

TOLSTOÏ ON THE RELATION BETWEEN MORALS AND FICTION.

WHAT is the most important factor in the creation of a work of literary art? What are the conditions, moral and esthetic, which writers of fiction must observe if they would invest their work with value and significance? These are the main questions answered by Count Leo Tolstoï in an elaborate review of the literary career of Guy de Maupassant in an article written for *Chapman's Magazine* (London, February). The French novelist is used to illustrate and enforce the principles of the art of fiction held by Tolstoï. He finds that Maupassant was truer to art in the early stages of his development than in the later, but even of the earlier works Tolstoï says:

"He was unfortunately defective in the three chief endowments which, in addition to talent, are indispensable to a true work of art. These are, first, a correct, that is to say, a moral relation of the author to his subject; second, clearness or beauty (they are one and the same) of expression; third, sincerity, that is, an unfeigned sense of love or hatred regarding the object which the artist depicts.

"Of these qualities De Maupassant possessed traces only of the two last, and was utterly deficient in the first. He had no correct or moral relation to the subjects he described. Judging by what I had read, I came to the conclusion that De Maupassant possessed talent, that is, an attitude of attention to the facts and events of life, which disclosed to him properties unperceived by other men; that he had acquired also an excellent style, expressing clearly, simply, and prettily what he had to say; and that he could be accredited also with that merit without which a work of art can produce no effect—sincerity. He made no pretense of love or hate, but did indeed so regard the things as he described them.

"But, unhappily, being without what is perhaps the most important factor in the creation of a work of art—a correct moral relation to his subject, which includes a knowledge of the difference between good and evil—he loved and described what was not worthy of affection nor of description, and neither cared for nor related that which was worthy of both."

After analyzing some early novels and a few late ones, Tolstoï proceeds to show the difference between them and the cause of the difference. He says:

"Whatever the artist may depict—saints, robbers, kings, footmen—we seek and we see only the soul of the artist himself. And if he be a writer with whose work we are acquainted, then the question is no longer, 'Who are you?' but, 'Well, what more can you tell me that is new? From what fresh standpoint will you illuminate life?' Hence no writer who has not a clear, defined, novel view of existence, and still more none who considers such a view unnecessary, can produce a work of art. He may write much and beautifully, but he will not produce a work of art.

"Such was the case with De Maupassant. In his first two novels, more especially in 'Une Vie,' there was a clear, novel, definite attitude toward life, and hence there was a work of art; but after he had bowed to the fashionable theory that such an attitude to life is needless, and began to write in order merely *faire quelque chose de beau*, his novels ceased to be works of art. In 'Une Vie' and 'Bel Ami' the author realizes whom he should love and whom he should hate, and the reader agrees with and believes him; and believes also in the persons and events he has described.

"But in 'Notre Cœur' and 'Yvette' the author does not know whom to love or hate, and neither does the reader. And being thus in ignorance, the reader does not believe in the events described, and is not interested in them. Hence with the exception of the first two novels, and strictly with the exception only of the first, all De Maupassant's novels are feeble things, and if the author had left us only his novels, he would have been merely a remarkable illustration of how a brilliant capacity may perish from the abnormal society in which it has developed, and of false theories of art invented by people who do not love it, and in consequence do not understand it."

It is in Maupassant's short stories that Tolstoï finds evidence of a reaction from indifferentism and a longing for moral truth and beauty. To quote again:

"But, fortunately, De Maupassant wrote short stories, in which he did not cramp himself by the false theory he had accepted, and in which he wrote, not *quelque chose de beau*, but of something which touched or revolted his moral sentiment.

"And in these stories—not in all, but in the best of them—one perceives how this moral sentiment grew in the author.

"In this growth lies precisely the astonishing capacity of every real talent, if only its possessor do no violence to himself under the influence of a false theory; for his talent instructs him, leads him forward on the road of moral development, makes him love what should be loved, and hate what should be hated.

"An artist is only an artist because he sees things, not as he wishes to see them, but as they are. The man, the possessor of talent, may fall into error; but talent, if only it be left free, as it was by De Maupassant in his tales, will disclose, undrape the object, and will compel love if it should be loved, and hate if it should be hated.

"When any true artist, under the influence of his circle, begins to describe what he should not, he shares the fate of Balaam, who, intending to bless, cursed that which should be cursed, and, desiring to curse, blessed what was ordained for blessing. So the artist will involuntarily do, not what he wishes, but what must be done. And this happened with Maupassant."

No man believed more intensely in love than Maupassant, says Tolstoï, yet no man has shown with such clearness "the awful aspects of love—its awful consequences and its more awful substance." On the whole, Maupassant failed, and here is the cause of his failure, according to Tolstoï:

"Living in a society at once monstrous and immoral, by the force of his talent and of the extraordinary light that was in him he struggled out of the ideals of that circle, and was already on the verge of deliverance, already breathed the air of freedom, when his powers, spent in this last effort, failed him, and he perished in prison.

"The tragic character of his failure is enforced by the fact that it is but a sample of the culture of our time."

Literature by the Wholesale.—Literature in "job lots" is to be expected as the natural outgrowth of modern commercialism. This method of writing has appeared in England in full bloom, if we may judge from the first number of *The Authors' Circular*, the official organ of the new English school of journalism. Until recently, in the number of "authors' bureaus," "literary syndicates," etc., America has been near the band in the literary procession, but apparently we have been outstripped. *The Tribune*, New York, comments thus upon the new publication and its school of wholesale fiction:

"Notice the literary want column, and see if Pegasus hasn't 'caught onto' the times and harnessed himself to a delivery wagon. Here is Beatrice Blank, who can furnish 'love stories and novelettes' with as much regularity as any other woman ever furnished table board. A young man who offers 'adventure stories and travel sketches' makes goods 'to order only,' an advertisement which suggest an established trade or a need that somebody supply raw material. Another person offers 'short stories or articles,' and has evidently adopted the ready-made clothier's ideas. He can fit any size, and it is no trouble to show goods. He has them 'on hand or to order' and of various lengths. Another desirable offer is 'sea stories, good, any length, by writer well acquainted with modern seafaring on steam cargo boats. Terms, two guineas a thousand words.' What are our magazines filling up with Kipling for, in the face of such an offer? Haven't they any business sense? Hotspur wants 'snap-shot photos of every-day life at sea on screw-colliers.' He evidently sells a chromo with each pound of tea. A playsmith has a 'plot and

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scenario of a strong drama,' but he is too busy to finish it up, and will dispose of the raw material to another manufacturer for £10. Then there are the wholesalers who wish to restock. One who deals 'chiefly among the artisan classes,' wants a 'good, exciting story with feminine interest and well worked-up situations.' No second-hand goods or shoddy will do. Another will take 100,000 words of exciting matter of interest to boys, provided that it can be cut in short lengths and not ravel."

DISEASE IN THE MODERN NOVEL.

THE discussion over the details of hospital life in "The Christian" have set physicians to overhauling other novels for medical details, and the conclusion has very generally been reached that very few novelists know much about these subjects, and that modern novelists know least of all. In *The Medical Record* (New York, January 22) appears a leading editorial on the subject, from which we quote the following paragraphs:

"Erroneous statements on medical subjects are very frequent in the modern novel, and appear to be becoming more so. Impossible and contradictory descriptions of the symptoms and course of a disease, together with a display of ignorance of medical matters in general, are a feature of up-to-date fiction. One would imagine in this age of realism that writers would try to be fairly accurate, or at least not make glaring mistakes."

After a criticism of Hall Caine's last work along lines already familiar to our readers, the editor goes on to say:

"The writer of fiction of the present day does not appear to advantage with many of the novelists of the past generation in his acquaintance and handling of medical subjects, altho it must be confessed that even among the dead giants of romance there were but few whose description of a disease was absolutely correct. George Eliot is without doubt entitled to first place in this list; her sketches of doctors and her statements in regard to the diseases of which she treats are drawn with a masterly hand, and are as accurate as if written for a medical text-book. Charles Kingsley, again, in 'Two Years Ago,' traces the history of a cholera epidemic with the utmost attention to technical minutiæ. Thackeray also described the course of a malady as correctly as he did the treatment pursued by the physicians of his time. Of modern novelists, Besant, in the 'Ivory Gate,' gives an interesting study of an obscure brain disease, and as he informs us in the preface that he procured his medical information from a competent doctor it may be taken for granted that his statements are correct. Putting on one side, however, the comparatively few instances in which the diseases dealt with by novelists are to be depended upon as being correctly described, the majority of the medical statements in fiction can be divided into two classes: those in which the accounts of diseases given are false in every respect; and those in which the author, not being *au fait* with his subject, is careful not to commit himself, and therefore wisely confines himself to vague generalities.

"Another point worthy of notice is the small number of diseases brought into the service of the novelist. At one time brain fever was the universal favorite, with typhoid a good second, and altho within recent years neurosis has to a certain extent banished brain fever from its proud position, yet the latter disease still holds its own in fiction. That nervous prostration is much more likely to attack the hero or heroine suffering from the storm and stress of life, as depicted in the ordinary modern novel, than is brain fever, can not be denied. Nevertheless, there are occasions when an author, in order to extricate himself from a complicated situation, is compelled to fall back upon a disease of an acute nature; and in such a predicament, what so suitable as brain fever or what so convenient as its delirious ravings? The fact has been more than once pointed out that there is a disease which has been strangely overlooked, and which certainly deserves to find more favor in the eyes of the novelist than has hitherto been the case. This complaint is pneumonia, for, while it fulfils all the conditions required by the novelist, and to a fuller extent than brain fever, it has none of the disagreeable associations connected with typhoid. Pneumonia may be termed an aristocratic disease, while typhoid, tho no respecter of persons, still has a certain plebeian flavor savoring of foul-smelling drains and tainted water. In novels acute diseases invariably end suddenly. Pneumonia terminates by crisis; the onset of the attack is sudden, the temperature is always high; delirium, stupor, or complete unconsciousness is a feature in its progress. Thus in this disease there is a choice of dramatic climax found in no other malady. A wicked man can be cut off in the midst of his sins, or a good one can be made to provide an edifying death-bed scene. Pneumonia may be recommended to authors as a disease whose merits as an aid to fiction have not as yet received the appreciation from them which is undoubtedly its due. Consumption is a disease of such a nature that most novelists fight shy of it and are very chary of relating its tedious course. William D. Howells, in his latest work, has been bold enough to introduce a family all of whose members but one are afflicted with phthisis; and Gilbert Parker, in an interesting book he has lately written, has succeeded in rendering his consumptive hero a most fascinating and attractive personality. In connection with consumption in fiction, it is instructive under the present circumstances to note that Smollett, more than one hundred and fifty years ago, draws attention in 'The Expedition of Humphry Clinker' to the prevailing opinion then existing that consumption was contagious. Heart disease is naturally a favorite with writers of romance when a character gets rather too obtrusive and it is deemed advisable to remove her or him from the scene. Marion Crawford, in a 'Rose of Yesterday,' has drawn a graphic picture of the life and death of a fast man; but the most powerful sketch of the stages of syphilis was that of Samuel Warren, entitled 'Man about Town,' included in his 'Diary of a Late Physician.' In present and past fiction too many examples have been afforded of the manner in which eminent writers can err when they enter upon descriptions of technical matters without taking the trouble to verify their statements. It can not be expected of a novelist, however talented he may be, that he should be conversant with a disease by mere intuition, and if he trusts to his imagination and to some superficial observation he will surely fall into grievous errors. When an author is distrustful of his medical knowledge, he should follow in the footsteps of the great masters of his craft, and either, like Dickens, touch upon such matters vaguely, or, better still, like Thackeray or George Eliot, obtain his information at first hand."

AN ITALIAN VIEW OF DAUDET.

IN our issue of January 22 our readers will find an article on "Daudet's Latest Story," and, immediately following, M. Zola's account of his latest years. From the *Nuova Antologia* (Rome, January 1) we take the following extracts from a critical article entitled "Daudet" by Sr. Giuseppe Balfico:

"With the decline of naturalism its masters are also disappearing: first Guy de Maupassant; then Edmond de Goncourt, always faithful to the forms and dogmas of his art; and now Alphonse Daudet, who, purified by his long suffering, has taken his flight on high. . . . . .

"All were attacked in the principal instrument of their success and their glory; their nervous organizations were subjected to too intense vibration.

"Maupassant was prostrated by a gradual paralysis; Edmond de Goncourt, like his brother, perished of exhaustion; and Daudet, like Heine, had a spinal disease and finally perished in the arms of his friends.

"It would be well to study this phenomenon, since a careful statistician might be able to find out if there are many, like these writers, afflicted with modern nervousness, like these impressionists with an excessive sensibility, who fall victims to their art, prostrate from their too fatiguing and assiduous study, from the *insomnia* of their ever-wakeful senses.

"These were victims of a sort of cerebral alcoholism—if I may be permitted the expression. Profound sensations are received from reading their works, which, first of all and more deeply, these writers must have experienced in the moments of penetrating observation, in those hours of creative intoxication in which are sometimes condensed the best energies of a life. Always ready to receive and to give impressions and sensations, they sharpen, refine, and excite their sensibility; and it seems as if they even lay bare their nerves that they may the more easily

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vibrate, as a sonorous cord is exposed to every movement of the air. . . . . .

"Goncourt called this 'a high fever of hallucination'; and all of his works, as those of his companions, have in them something really feverish. The men and events of these writers are true, but they are observed with the dilated pupil of an invalid on whom the fever has conferred a sad clearness of sight: *they see too much; they feel too much.*

"When Alphonse Daudet, at the age of seventeen, abandoned his sunny South and entered into the mists of Paris with a heart palpitating with hope, he did not seem destined to become a romancer of the refinement and amiable corruption of the second Empire.

"His young mind was filled with light, and the fancies which crossed it were all youthful. He had but one ambition—to become the poet of his country, the warm South, with its beautiful balconies, its white casements full of dazzling sunlight; with its climbing vines covering the walls and wreathing the windows; with its love; with its songs, which, in the vibrating light air, ascended to find distant echoes; with its dances on the fields, the sound of its tambours; with the shrill note of the grasshopper and the ceaseless prattle of its gossips. Daudet, like his famous Tamburino, wished to conquer the soul of Paris with music, with elocution, with the songs of his country bubbling over with smiles.

"And the influence which the life of Paris exerted on him did not succeed in making him lose the desire and power to laugh; and thus his genius acquired a variety of expression which is rarely found in other naturalists.

"This contrast between his original tendency to laugh and the sad and subtle power of observation of things and men which he acquired later made of Alphonse Daudet a true humorist. He is happily detached from the group of his school. While in the colossal works of Zola the observation is registered with the scrupulousness and gravity of a missionary, somewhat fatiguing to the reader, while the romances of Goncourt, insistent in precision, exhaustive in research, reveal the mania of a fanatical collector, and occasionally appear fatiguing and mannered, the romance of Daudet, even when it is most sad and bitter, even when it fills our ears with lamentations, has a continual vivacity, inexhaustible in movement. The style has figures and irregularities and digressions and explanations and a restlessness truly Southern. Sometimes it has the dominating virtue of a narrative made extemporaneously, accompanied with the gestures, the smiles, the laughs of the one speaking; and the most diverse sensations follow and the most varying types pass before us with their characteristic gestures, with their unforgettable grimaces.

"While the formula of naturalism imposes on all those who adopt it—with the exception of Daudet, who is admirably free from it—a sort of strength, like the gait of a giant rich in blood and muscles, but somewhat slow in movement from its own weight and his own power, Daudet has kept a marvelous flexibility. . . . . .

"Bruyère says that every good writer should be an excellent painter; and Daudet possesses the pictorial faculty to a wonderful degree. He does not need lengthy enumeration to introduce an atmosphere, in order to make one perceive it; a few essential touches, given rapidly, are enough. They give an immediate impression, almost enabling one to touch the object described; you are even dazzled by the light of his landscapes. They seem to assure you that the thing observed had hypnotized him.

"But sometimes his pictures suggest mannerism, and this is when he uses the pencil with exceeding grace, but with too much disdain. Sometimes he seeks effects of contrast, of *chiaro oscuro*, which show a love of effect. This is shown in a curious manner in some of his romances. For instance, he knows that the nervous flexibility of his style contrasts forcibly with mournful subjects, and therefore he delights to multiply descriptions of funerals."

In these descriptions, says the critic further, "are found all the elements of truth, but the artifice with which they are put together is only an exaggeration of truth, which is Daudet's principal defect." He abuses his powers of observation by a certain ostentation, and has, in fact, the Southerner's too strong love of color. The critic divides Daudet's work into three parts: the trilogy of "Tartarin"; the romances of custom, such as "Fromont jeune et 'Risler ainé," "Nabab, "Les Rois en exil," "L'Immortel," and "Jack"; and the analytical romances, such as "Sapho," "L'Evangéliste," and "La petite paroisse." "Sapho" he thinks the most perfect, and the heroine of this book, according to Lemaître, is the Manon Lescaut of our century. To the accusation of plagiarism with which Daudet was often attacked for his similarity in some respects to Dickens, Sr. Balfico says that "to this accusation Daudet remained serenely scornful. When a writer observes with his own eyes and with his own conscience he has nothing to say to such an accusation; for certain relationships of the mind no one is responsible."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

WILLIAM WATSON'S NEW VOLUME.

WILLIAM WATSON'S latest volume of verse, "The Hope of the World, and Other Poems," adds new laurels to those won by his previously published work, and makes more secure his position in the front rank of living poets. The modern fashion of publishing thin volumes of poetry written in the same key has been abandoned in this instance, the collection including poems on widely differing subjects. Those who have known Mr. Watson only through his earlier nature-poetry, or his recent denunciations of the Armenian atrocities, will find in this book new evidences of his insight and power when dealing with the fundamental questions of man's origin and destiny. Here, too, are songs and odes which show their author to be a lyric poet of rare delicacy and beauty.

"The Hope of the World," the poem from which the volume takes its title, is a protest against the anthropomorphic idea that the earth was created with a special regard for the service and glory of man. It is also an assertion of the Stoic doctrine that the promise of a heavenly paradise after death should not be necessary as an incentive to a life of virtue and manly fortitude. To HOPE, who

> ——tells me, whispering low:
> "Wherefore and whence thou wast,
> Thou shalt behold and know
> When the great bridge is crossed.
> For not in mockery He
> Thy gift of wondering gave,
> Nor bade thine answer be
> The blank stare of the grave.
> Thou shalt behold and know: and find again thy lost."

the poet replies:

> Such are the tales she tells;
> Who trusts, the happier he;
> But naught of *virtue* dwells
> In that felicity!
> think the harder feat
> Were his who should *withstand*
> A voice so passing sweet,
> And so profuse a hand.
> Hope, I forego the wealth thou fling'st abroad so free!
>
> Carry thy largesse hence,
> Light Giver! Let me learn
> To abjure the opulence
> I have done naught to earn;
> And on this world no more
> To cast ignoble slight,
> Counting it but the door
> Of other worlds more bright.
> Here, where I fail or conquer, here is my concern:
>
> Here, where perhaps alone
> I conquer or I fail.
> Here, o'er the dark Deep blown,
> I ask no perfumed gale;
> I ask the unpampering breath
> That fits me to endure
> Chance, and victorious Death,
> Life, and my doom obscure,
> Who know not whence I am sped, nor to what port I sail.

In the same strain is "The Unknown God" (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, September 25, 1897), in which is expressed the highest thought of modern Pantheism. Of the "Ode in May," and of other songs, a reviewer in *The Spectator* says:

"Mr. Watson has power in two fields of verse, and in two fields

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which are generally thought to have little in common. He is equally at home in elegiac and in lyric verse. As a song-writer he has the true lyric cry, as had the Elizabethans. He does not, of course, imitate their special manner, for if he did so his songs must want that spontaneous note which is the essence of a true song, but sings rather, as they did, from the full heart. His elegiac verse, again, is as full of thought and of the criticism of life as is Gray's 'Elegy.' As proof that Mr. Watson can write a true song we have only to quote his exquisite 'April':

April, April,
Laugh thy girlish laughter;
Then, the moment after,
Weep thy girlish tears!
April, that mine ears
Like a lover greetest,
If I tell thee, sweetest,
All my hopes and fears,
April, April,
Laugh thy golden laughter,
But, the moment after,
Weep thy golden tears!

Here there is not one word too much, nor one word that is not the right word in the right place. The 'Ode in May,' tho it does not make the same absolutely simple appeal that does the enchanting little song just quoted, is full of the lyric cry. It sings with a passion of delight those joys of the awakening earth which have been so universally the theme of all poets in all ages, that one sometimes wonders whether poetry could exist without the spring, or if a lyric would be possible on the line—where the 'budding, fading, faded flowers' never know the death of winter and so never know the consummate hour of resurrection:

Let me go forth and share
The overflowing Sun
With one wise friend, or one
Better than wise, being fair,
Where the pewit wheels and dips
On heights of bracken and ling,
And Earth, unto her leaflet tips,
Tingles with the Spring.

What is so sweet and dear
As a prosperous morn in May,
The confident prime of the day,
And the dauntless youth of the year,
When nothing that asks for bliss,
Asking aright, is denied,
And half of the world a bridegroom is,
And half of the world a bride?

The Song of Mingling flows,
Grave, ceremonial, pure,
As once, from lips that endure,
The cosmic descant rose,
When the temporal lord of life,
Going his golden way,
Had taken a wondrous maid to wife
That long had said him nay.

For of old the Sun, our sire,
Came wooing the mother of men,
Earth, that was virginal then,
Vestal fire to his fire.
. . . . . .
And the triumph of him that begot,
And the travail of her that bore,
Behold they are evermore
As warp and weft in our lot.
We are children of splendor and flame,
Of shuddering, also, and tears;
Magnificent out of the dust we came,
And abject from the Spheres.

Those two lines—

And half of the world a bridegroom is,
And half of fhe world a bride?

would be enough, were the rest of Mr. Watson's poetry to perish in a barbarian invasion, to prove that he was a true poet."

The "Miscellaneous Poems" in the volume include half a dozen short poems which approach perfection both in feeling and workmanship. Of these we give two examples:

INVENTION.

I envy not the Lark his song divine,
Nor thee, O Maid, thy beauty's faultless mould.
Perhaps the chief felicity is mine,
Who hearken and behold.

The joy of the Artificer Unknown
Whose genius could devise the Lark and thee—
This, or a kindred rapture, let me own,
I covet ceaselessly!

THEY AND WE.

With stormy joy, from height on height,
The thundering torrents leap.
The mountain tops, with still delight,
Their great inaction keep.

Man only, irked by calm, and rent
By each emotion's throes,
Neither in passion finds content,
Nor finds it in repose.

"SUBTERRANEAN" LITERATURE.

THE novels that cover the newstands and are shouted in our ears and thrust in our faces on the trains receive less attention from the reviewers than their circulation would seem to warrant. If the train-boy stops and rests his pile of yellow- and blue-covered books on the arm of the seat, the passenger is confronted by a list of titles and authors never seen in the literary reviews. Yet the circulation of this literature is enormous. It is independent of the reviews, because the people who buy it never read the reviews and seldom meet people who do. The only notice the reviews take of this "subterranean" literature is in an occasional article expressing wonder at its extent or curiosity to find the cause of it.

For example, *The Daily News*, London, says:

"The most popular novelists are those who are least known to literary people. Who has heard of Emma Jane Worboise, or of the late Mr. Smith of *Family Herald* fame? And among French novelists Zola and Daudet and Ohnet we know, but very few have heard of Richebourg, whose death was announced yesterday. Yet Richebourg—'the king of the feuilletonists,' as he was called—had probably more readers than any novelist, alive or dead, and made as much money by one novel as any other novelist by two. He wrote exclusively for the *Petit Journal*. He had, it was calculated, 4,000,000 readers for every story he wrote, and he used to receive £4,000 for the serial rights alone."

An interesting speculative article, written, we presume, by Mr. F. E. Regal, appears in *The Republican* (Springfield, Mass.), dealing with the same subject as it appears in this country:

"R. L. Stevenson always had a feeling of the liveliest curiosity, of which we find many expressions in his essays, in regard to that mysterious yet pervasive nether world of books, which is never criticized, seldom reviewed, not often advertised, and which nevertheless seems to be read by the million. It is natural that to an author struggling for the ear of the great, hydra-headed public this mysterious and ever-recurring phenomenon should have a peculiar fascination—if one could but master the secret of it and apply it to real books, his fortune would be made. Yet this is a new phenomenon, the birth of our own day of cheap reading-matter. Augusta, Me., sends out magazines by the million, dwarfing by comparison the circulation of *The Century*, *Harper's*, even *Munsey's* and *The Ladies' Home Journal*. Yet who ever heard of the Augusta periodicals? What is the mysterious chemical or spiritual affinity by which these subterranean magazines find their congenial bit of brain matter, whether in Maine or New Mexico, without advertising, without the knowledge of the rest of the world? It is a mystery which the literary reader can never solve. He never sees the periodicals in question, never hears of them, never sees them mentioned, is not even aware of their names, and his acquaintances are no wiser. If he takes the trouble to hunt up a specimen copy the mystery only grows the deeper, for he can find absolutely nothing in the contents which seems to him capable of interesting any human mind, and yet these popular magazines are constantly being sent out by the ton, addressing an audience compared with which the readers of Stevenson, Kipling, or Hall Caine are a mere coterie, as select as Artemus Ward's family circle, 'which I am principally it myself.'

"In the field of fiction the mystery is equally profound. It is likely that there are many readers who rather pride themselves on keeping up with contemporary letters who have never heard of the 'Albatross' novels, or of the author who signed himself Albert Ross. Yet these novels have already sold over a million copies, and before his death the author had accumulated so large

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a fortune that he was able to engage in charity on a magnificent scale. Deep is the veil of mystery wrapped about the 'Bertha M. Clay.' Was there ever such a person? At all events, of late years the name has been merely a trade-mark for goods manufactured on the sweat-shop principle by mediocre penny-a-liners. Yet the popularity of the novels seems unabated. Who can solve the riddle?

"Another name that is reputed to carry with it fabulous popularity is that of Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, who numbers her novels by the score and her readers by the legion. Yet why so many thousands of people should care to read her books is a conundrum to which those who do not read them can not hope to find the answer. Take, for instance, her last novel, 'Paul Ralston,' published by the G. W. Dillingham Company. Why do people read it? For style? It has none. For character or its portrayal of life? It is as accurate a picture as the sketch which the schoolboy draws with a staggering slate pencil, appending the legend: 'This is a house,' to make sure of its identification. For plot, then? The plot is as mediocre as the rest of the book—perfectly obvious, perfectly banal, with no such ingenuity as made 'The Leavenworth Case' a masterpiece of its kind. It is not especially exciting, it contains absolutely nothing that is improper or capable of appealing to a depraved taste, it is even rather dull and colorless reading. Indeed, it would seem that mediocrity is the golden rule of successful authorship. To hit the taste of the million it is necessary to adopt the taste of the million. . . . . ."

After a *résumé* of the plot, the writer comes at the reason for the popularity of the novel in question, and makes a guess at the cause of the popularity of the whole "subterranean" class of fiction:

"Now this story is not in itself of thrilling interest, and the manner in which it is told is in nowise remarkable, unless it may be for such singular English as 'Here he had lain Paul.' The characters are as unreal as comic-opera peasants, and those who indulge in dialect speak the most eccentric patois that was ever evolved from the inner consciousness of a writer immured in a study. The one thing that could possibly be expected to awaken interest is the love story, the winning of the heart of a rich and fashionable young man by a virtuous and amiable young woman far removed from his social sphere. And perhaps an analysis of underground fiction would show that this is the most popular of all themes. It is the old Cinderella fairy-story over again, the poor girl who breaks her chrysalis of ashes and marries the prince. It looks like a secure recipe for riches, but we can not recommend authors to attempt it for the sake of increased circulation unless they are called. They would be likely to spoil the recipe by an infusion of ideas, or to miss the mark by a mistaken effort at simplicity, which is not appreciated in the subterranean world of letters. Finery is required, but it must not be the real thing, but a sham. And above all, anything like realism must be shunned in addressing this particular audience, which likes in its reading to get as far as possible from the realities of existence. But these are only conjectures. The secret of the popularity of these books can never be comprehended by those to whom it is not revealed."

Favorite Hymns of Great Men.—*The Times*, New York, gives an interesting summary of the opinions of a number of prominent men upon hymns that are helpful:

'Being a man with no doubts of his own competency to decide any conceivable question, W. T. Stead had an answer ready the other day when somebody—perhaps himself—asked him what hymn, of all that have been written in the English language, is at once the most helpful and the most popular. Mr. Stead's verdict was that 'Rock of Ages,' written by the Calvinistic vicar of a parish in Devonshire, merited this description. His decision has started a wide controversy on the subject, and opinions have been collected from many eminent divines. Washington Gladden, who differs from Mr. Stead by more than the distance from London to Columbus, Ohio, declares that the problem is insoluble. 'I have no means,' he writes, 'of knowing which is the most helpful and popular hymn. The most helpful might not be the most popular; some that are very popular are hurtful rather than helpful. My own favorites are many; on the whole, however, I think I value most and use most frequently Charles Wesley's "Love divine, all love excelling."' Dwight L. Moody is of the opinion that 'Just as I am' has done the most good to the greatest number. Edward Everett Hale cautiously says that '"Nearer, my God, to Thee" is now most used in public services.' Robert Collyer tells this anecdote: I well remember one day when this subject was the object of a discussion between Ralph Waldo Emerson and Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes. The latter said that many of the so-called hymns were mere pieces of cabinetwork. Then his voice deepened, his eyes shone, as we remember him in his noblest moments, as he said: 'One hymn I think supreme.' Emerson threw his head back, as he always did when his attention was arrested, and waited. Dr. Holmes repeated the first verse:

> Thou hidden Love of God, whose height,
> Whose depth, unfathomed, no man knows,
> I see from far Thy beauteous light;
> Inly I sigh for Thy repose.
> My heart is pained, nor can it be
> At rest till it find rest in Thee.

'I know—I know,' exclaimed Emerson. 'That is the supreme hymn.'"

NOTES.

IT is reported that unless about $14,000 can be immediately added to the funds already secured by the Lowell Memorial Committee, raising the aggregate to $35,000, it is probable that the plan for turning a part of the Elmwood estate at Cambridge into a memorial park will come to nothing.

"A WELL-KNOWN French writer," says *Humanitarian*, "has recently been discussing the question of literature as a disease. In his opinion France is suffering from a new and insidious disease—*literaturitis*. Among the educated classes there is a positive craze for decadent literature, and the demand only creates the supply. The result is that the minds of both writers and readers are poisoned by unwholesome mental food, and the men who write are, as a rule, the reverse of manly, and are given to effeminacy, drunkenness, immorality, and vice generally. In point of fact, writing appears, if we may believe this authority, to be an occupation only pursued by the diseased in body and of mind."

IT is refreshing to find that the British are being compelled to revise their idea of the American traveler. Many stories have been published about Tennyson's having been constantly pestered by Americans, "many of whom flattened their noses against the windows of the Laureate's dining-room." Mr. J. F. Fasham, who was a neighbor of the poet at Freshwater, describes these stories in *Eureka* as "arrant nonsense." As a matter of fact, not once in a month would an American tourist be seen in the neighborhood of Farringford House, and Mr. Fasham affirms that his experience of such tourists in that part does not justify the notion that Americans on tour are in the habit of behaving less decorously than other people.

THE first number of *St. George*—a quarterly journal to be issued by the Ruskin Society of Birmingham—publishes a letter from Brantwood giving the following account of Mr. Ruskin's present state of health: "I am glad to say that Mr. Ruskin's health is much as it has been during these later years. He still takes his daily walks, sees his personal friends, and spends much time in reading. But it does not seem to be understood by the public that this comparative health depends upon his being kept from all unnecessary work. He directs his own business, but is obliged to decline correspondence, and can not reply to the many letters which still come, asking for his intervention in public matters or for private advice or assistance."

THE most striking success in English journalism of late years is that of the London *Daily Mail*, which was founded in May, 1896, and in less than two years has attained a circulation of 380,000. It is the property and the idea of Alfred Harmsworth, who is thirty-two years old, a millionaire (in pounds) and one of six brothers who among them own eighteen weekly papers, a monthly, and four dailies. *The Bookman* asked Mr. Harmsworth for his journalistic creed, and in the course of his reply he said: "I believe that half the journalistic notions of what the public wants to read are wrong; I believe the public is a far better critic than is usually imagined; I believe the public does not care an iota about size—if anything a small journal is preferred to a big one; I believe that price has very little to do with the success of a publication; I believe the attractions of illustrated journalism are enormously overrated; I believe party journalism to be practically dead; I believe in independence."

"THERE is one man among modern painters," says E. J. Poynter, president of the Royal Academy, "who may, perhaps, be classed with Velasquez in the complete mastery of his method of painting, and that is a man whose views by instinct and training are as far removed from those of the great Spaniard as Velasquez's own are from those of Perugino and Raphael, who was probably unconscious of any attempt to rival him in this respect. I speak of the French painter Ingres, to my mind the one painter of this century who approaches nearly to the great masters of past times. In spite of a want of the color sense, which frequently jars painfully where he is not content with being neutral in tint, you will find in Ingres's noble work that command of the full brush, whose gratifying qualities of painting in the subtle suffusion of the tints and the unseizable gradations of modeling, and that profound insight into the character of the model, which in complete mastery over his material bring his work very close to the work of the great Spanish painter."

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

LIQUEFIED AIR BY THE GALLON.

THE processes for liquefying air employed in England by Professor Dewar, the first scientific man to accomplish this feat, having been slow and expensive, and it has therefore been the good fortune of comparatively few to witness the remarkable experiments that can be performed with this substance. It has been reserved to an inventive American, Charles E. Tripler, of New York, to perfect a simple and inexpensive process for liquefying great quantities at a time, so that he now literally makes it by the gallon. We quote from *The American Machinist* a description of his process and of some of the things that can be done with liquid air:

"In the process employed for liquefying the air it is compressed to a pressure of 2,000 pounds and cooled by passing through a copper coil to normal temperature. It is discharged through a very minute opening, when it expands, and its temperature falls, and, coming in contact with a second coil, cools that and its contained air at 2,000 pounds pressure. This cooled air is discharged also upon a third coil, also containing air at the high pressure, and in this coil the cold produced is so intense that the air runs out in a liquid stream a quarter of an inch or so in diameter.

"The liquid air remains liquid, just as water does, until its temperature rises to the boiling-point, and then, as the operation of evaporation requires heat for its maintenance, the evaporation proceeds slowly or rapidly, according to the rate of heat supply. The intensely low temperature must, of course, not be forgotten. Ice dropped into the liquid causes it to boil until the ice is cooled. The boiling-point at ordinary atmospheric pressure is —191° Centigrade or —320° Fahr. As the boiling-point of nitrogen is more than 10° below that of oxygen, it is found that it boils out first, and by a careful control of the evaporation the liquid oxygen may be retained separate; this process, therefore, affording a means of obtaining oxygen for the many purposes for which it is required in the arts.

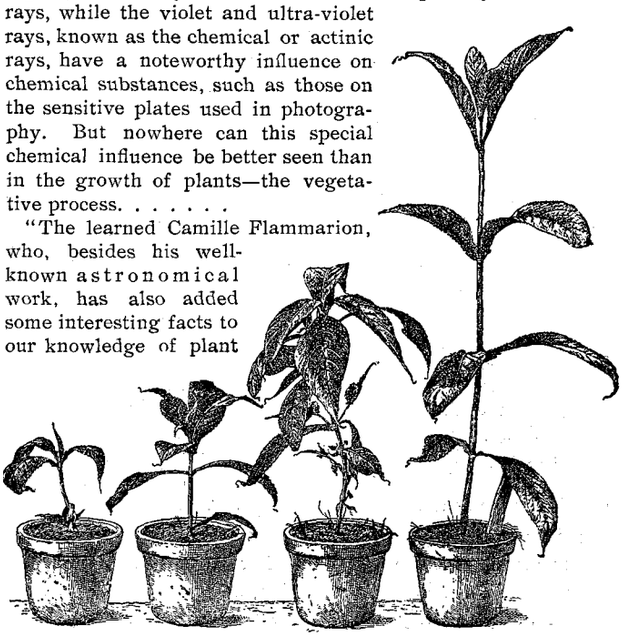
"The refrigerative phenomena exhibited were numerous and interesting. An egg placed in a tumbler of the liquid caused it to boil furiously. When the egg was finally 'cooked,' or cooled to the temperature of the air, it was taken out and struck with a hammer, flying into the finest fragments! Tin became as brittle as glass, while copper and platinum were not affected in this way. Mercury was frozen so that it was used to drive a nail in a board. Cotton saturated with the liquid oxygen exploded and burned brilliantly. These phenomena and others exhibited too numerous to be rehearsed here suggest great possibilities of usefulness for liquid air in the future."

COLORED LIGHT AND PLANT GROWTH.

SOME recent interesting experiments on the effects of different colored light on the growth of plants and on the colors and shapes of their leaves, flowers, and fruit, are described by a contributor to *Der Stein der Weisen* (Vienna, February 27). We translate and abstract below a large part of the article:

"All the rays that come from the sun pass through space in the form of ether-waves of great speed, which vary in intensity and characteristics. These ether-vibrations that produce the sensation of red when they strike our eyes are the slowest, and the ether-waves that correspond to them are longer than those that correspond to violet, altho, for example, the ether-waves of red make 395,000,000,000 vibrations in a second, yet this enormous number is increased in the case of the violet to 756,000,000,000 and for the ultra-violet to 764,000,000,000. . . . The red rays of the solar spectrum are also the chief heat-giving rays, and they are sometimes called specially the calorific rays, while the violet and ultra-violet rays, known as the chemical or actinic rays, have a noteworthy influence on chemical substances, such as those on the sensitive plates used in photography. But nowhere can this special chemical influence be better seen than in the growth of plants—the vegetative process. . . . . .

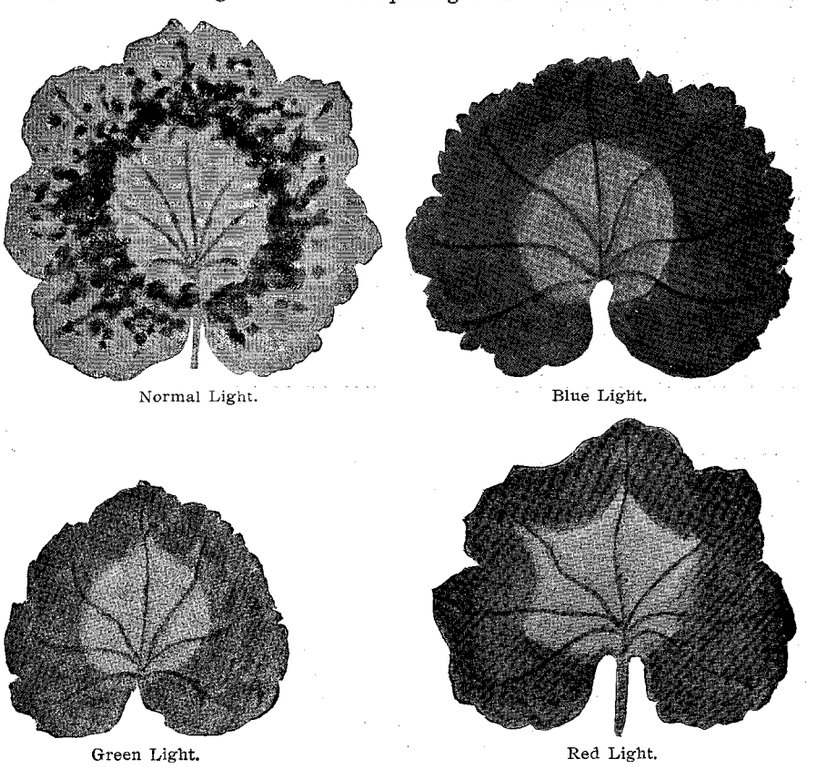
"The learned Camille Flammarion, who, besides his well-known astronomical work, has also added some interesting facts to our knowledge of plant biology, . . . has recently undertaken some interesting investigations on the influence of the sun's rays on the colors of plants."



Blue. Green. White. Red.

INFLUENCE OF COLORED LIGHT ON PLANTS (*Strobilanthes Dyerianus*).

To answer the question: "Which rays of the spectrum have the greatest effect on plant growth?" Flammarion threw on the ground a solar spectrum a yard long, and placed a growing plant in each of the seven so-called rainbow colors; but this experiment had no certain results, owing to the difficulties attending the method. An experiment under colored glass was more succes.



Normal Light. Blue Light. Green Light. Red Light.

EFFECT OF COLORED LIGHT ON GROWTH AND APPEARANCE OF GERANIUM LEAVES.

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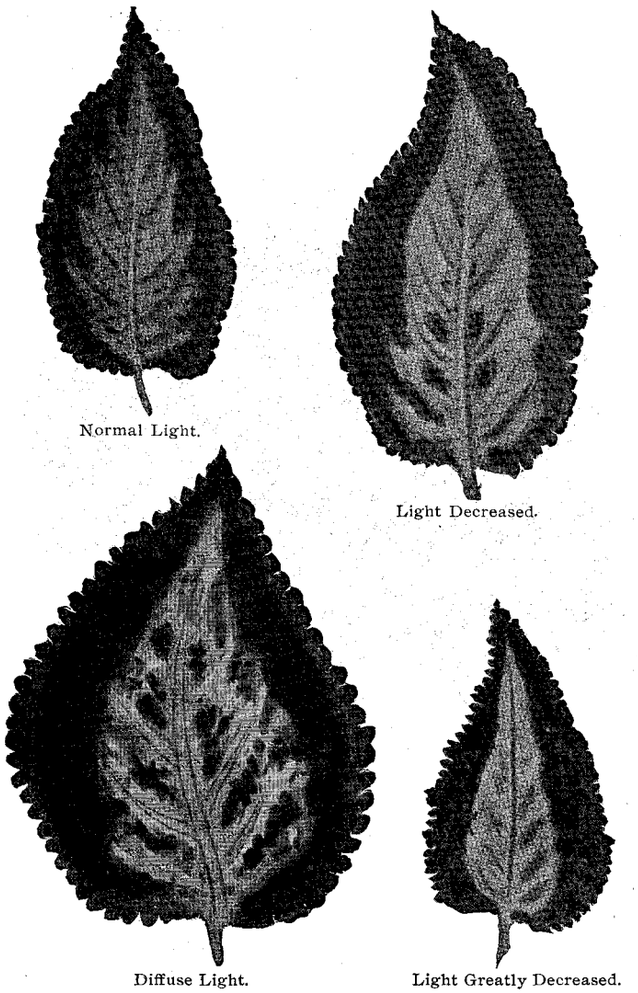
ful. Red, green, blue, and white (or uncolored) glasses were used with the result shown in the illustration. The growth was far greater under the red, while the development of woody fiber was greatest under the clear glass, that is, in normal conditions. It will be seen that the "blue-glass" theories of twenty years ago are decidedly negatived. Says the author:

"In relation to these results of his investigations, Flammarion directs our attention particularly to two circumstances. First, the intensity of the light as an illuminating agent was not in all cases the same, for the clear glass has of course the highest power in this direction and the blue glass the least. Secondly, the temperature is not the same throughout, for here again the clear glass lets through most heat rays and the blue the fewest. There is, now, for all plants a maximum temperature up to which they grow best, and also doubtless a degree of light-intensity under



EFFECT OF THE INTENSITY OF LIGHT ON THE GROWTH AND APPEARANCE OF COLEUS LEAVES.

which they flourish to the best advantage. So the chief factors in plant growth are color, light-intensity, and temperature, which all work together in the same direction."

Later investigations, however, showed that temperature has very little influence, for when it was so carefully regulated as to be the same for each color, the striking differences under the various colors still remained. M. Flammarion's investigations also brought out interesting effects of light on the colors of leaves and flowers. To quote again:

"All plants may be divided into three principal groups: first, those in which the influence of light on the nutritive processes in the cell causes the colors of leaf and flower; second, those in which the color is influenced by the direct effects of the sunlight; third, those in which the coloring of certain parts is not dependent upon light."

We all know that green herbs become white in dark cellars, and a French observer, M. Duchartre, changed colored lilies to white by keeping them in the cold. M. Flammarion did a similar thing by shifting flowers from one colored light to another; lilies, for instance, that were pink in clear light becoming dead white under green. Similar changes in shape and color-distribution in geranium and coleus leaves are shown in the illustrations. Analogous experiments were tried with fruits and vegetables, which showed that in all cases the intensity and color of the sunlight affected their colors powerfully.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A POSSIBLE ORIGINAL OF THE SEA-SERPENT.

IT has more than once been suggested that the stories of sea-serpents may have arisen from glimpses of rare serpent-like sea-monsters. Such a monster is the eel-shaped frilled shark, called by zoologists *Chlamydoselache*, which lives only in very deep water. Professor Collett, of Christiania, Norway, who possesses the largest-known specimens of the fish, caught in Varanger Fiord at a depth of 900 feet, thinks that very large individuals of the species may well have given rise to "snake stories." Says *Natural Science*, February:

"At any rate, an unusually large specimen of this shark would serve very well for a so-called sea-serpent which was captured and, unfortunately, thrown away by an American fishing-boat on the coast of Maine in 1880. The strange animal in question is described as having been a long, eel-like fish, about twenty-five feet in length, with a flattened head, round body, and roughened skin like that of a shark. It had one dorsal fin, and several gill-clefts on each side of its head. Unfortunately it was thrown away as of no commercial value to the fishermen, and a subsequent search for the dead monster proved in vain."

This strange creature was unknown till about fourteen years ago. To quote again from *Natural Science:*

"When this remarkable shark was first discovered by Dr. Samuel Garman in 1884 among some fishes from the seas off Japan, it was at once recognized by him as a very ancient form of life which must have survived by taking refuge in the deep waters. The discovery thus led to a long and animated discussion as to its nearest extinct representatives; and so far as the teeth were concerned, nothing more similar could be found than the well-known fossils from the carboniferous rocks named *Cladodus* and *Diplodus*. Shortly afterward three more specimens of the same strange animal were received by the British Museum from Japan, and these enabled Dr. Günther to gives some further account of its anatomy in his well-known 'Challenger' volume on deep-sea fishes in 1887. . . . Until 1890, however, the genus was known only from the neighborhood of Japan, and in that year zoologists welcomed the interesting news of the discovery of a young specimen by the Prince of Monaco in the seas off Madeira. Finally, in 1896 came the new and comparatively gigantic individual now described by Professor Collett; and this is particularly interesting as having been obtained in a sea so far north as latitude 69° 45′. Fossil teeth, it may be added, proved that the shark lived in the Mediterranean area in Pliocene times, but hitherto it has not been found surviving in that region.

"The specimen of *Chlamydoselache* from northern Norway is much larger than any of those from Japan, being indeed nearly two meters [6½ feet] in length. But it is a very rare circumstance to be able to capture so large a fish at so great a depth; and as it scarcely differs from the Japanese specimen except in size, Professor Collett concludes that it is merely a more mature individual of the same species. It is a female specimen, with immature eggs in course of development in the oviduct, and thus apparently full grown; but that is, nevertheless, no reason why it should not attain still larger dimensions."

The writer notes that the creature's occurrence in such widely separated localities is but another instance of the wide and uniform distribution of deep-sea fishes.

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THE DANGER OF FRICTION.

A RECENT accident in London has called attention to a hitherto little suspected source of danger—that attending friction or rubbing of any kind in the neighborhood of an inflammable vapor. Rubbing often generates electricity, and the minutest of electric sparks, too small to be seen or even to betray itself by the slightest snapping or crackling, may set fire to a vapor. In the case alluded to, a spark from the friction of a hair-dresser's hand on his patron's head set fire to the vapors of a hair-wash containing kerosene. Lord Kelvin, referring to the subject in the London *Times* shortly after the accident, "spoke warningly," says *Cassier's Magazine* (February), "of the readiness with which combustible gas and air mixtures are ignited by even very faint electric sparks." He said:

"This readiness to ignite is illustrated in elementary lectures on electricity by Volta's cannon—a little varnished brass gun, mounted on a glass pillar, and having a wide touch-hole plugged with sealing-wax, in the center of which is mounted a brass wire carrying a little brass knob outside, and projecting inside to within one twentieth of an inch of the end of another brass wire fixed to the metal of the gun. The gun is filled with an explosive mixture of oxygen and hydrogen, and its muzzle is plugged with a cork. The varnished outside is struck with a piece of catskin, and, thus electrified, the gun is left insulated on its glass pillar. To fire it, all that is necessary is to touch the projecting knob with the finger. This causes discharge of the electricity by two exceedingly faint sparks, one barely, if at all, perceptible by the finger before contact with the knob outside, the other in the one twentieth of an inch air space within the explosive mixture inside. A loud explosion is heard, and the cork is projected with sufficient violence to tear a canvas picture if it chances to touch one."

To quote again from *Cassier's*:

"Ignition of vapor of benzin by an electric spark, Lord Kelvin went on to say, is well known to dyers in their process for cleaning silks and other fabrics by boiling in large caldrons of liquid benzin. When the goods are taken out of the caldron and spread out to dry on a table, explosions have often taken place, and there can be little question that an electric spark, caused by some slight friction between dried or partially dried portions of the fabrics, is the incendiary."

All of which goes to show that friction of any kind should be avoided when inflammable liquids are about.

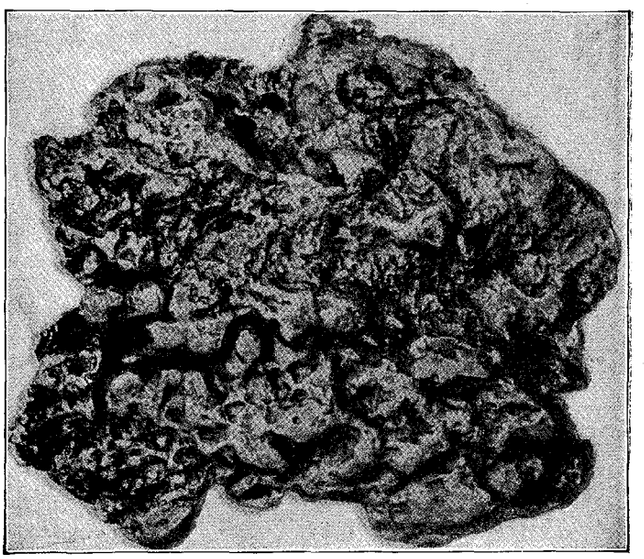
A New Form of Incandescent Lamp.—"An incandescent lamp of unique design is one of the novelties in the English electric-lighting trade," says *The Electrical World*. "The

ELECTRIC LIGHT BULB.
From *Electrical World*.

accompanying illustration represents it to be nearly ellipsoidal in shape, with its shortest axis on the vertical line. The upper half of the bulb is silvered, for the purpose of reflecting the light in a downward direction, thus increasing the luminosity of the lamp. It is stated that this lamp has a downward lighting efficiency 100 per cent. greater than that of the ordinary form of lamp. Dr. John Hopkinson made some tests upon it, comparing it with the common pear-shape lamp. He found that the average candle-power over the lower half of the globe of the new lamp was 38.6, while in the ordinary Edison lamp, with equal current, it was only 12.3. The relative consumption of current per candle was also determined. Along the axis of the new lamp he found the consumption to be 0.9 watts per candle, and in the Edison lamp it was 3.65. From a little calculation it appears that the comparative cost of lighting for 1,000 hours between the two styles of lamps, the improved lamp being of eight candle-power and the ordinary lamp of sixteen candle-power, is greatly in favor of the former."

STRUCTURE OF A GOLD NUGGET.

PROF. A. LIVERSIDGE, the gold expert of New South Wales, Australia, has for some time been engaged in testing the theory that gold nuggets are formed by the deposition of gold around a nucleus, from solution. His conclusions have been decidedly against this theory, and in a paper read recently



OUTSIDE OF NUGGET FROM COOLGARDIE, WEST AUSTRALIA.

before the Royal Society of his colony, and quoted in full in *The Engineering and Mining Journal* (February 19), he gives his reasons. Says Professor Liversidge:

"I obtained specimens of gold nuggets, which were ground down or sliced through so as to obtain sections; these sections were then polished and etched by means of suitable solvents, such as chlorin water, aqua regia, a solution of potassium cyanid, or by a mixture of sodium chlorid solution and nitric acid; the last was found to be the most convenient because the strong solution of salt dissolved off the coating of silver chlorid which was usually formed, and which prevented the action of the solvent from being properly watched. As a result of this treatment it was invariably found that the nugget did not present any traces of concentric coatings, but that the gold was always more or less crystallized, and in some cases the crystals were very large and with well-defined boundaries; in fact the etched surfaces closely resembled those obtained from sections of many metallic meteorites, except in the form of the crystals. Some of the nuggets also showed cavities and enclosures of quartz, ferric hydroxid, and argillaceous matter, altho in many cases none was visible on the rolled surface of the nugget, the non-appearance of the impurities on the surface being due to the soft gold having been usually beaten down, by rolling and attrition, in such a way as to cover over and hide the enclosures or render them less conspicuous.

"It was found also that many nuggets when heated strongly in a Bunsen burner became blistered, and that these blisters burst

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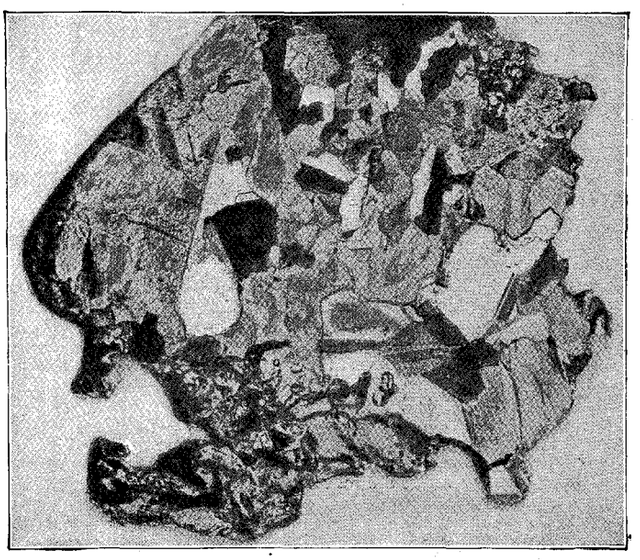
with a sharp report sometimes accompanied by the projection of small pieces of gold; they also gave off gases or vapors, which issued under considerable pressure and forced out the Bunsen flame into little blowpipe-like jets. It was thought that these phenomena might be due to the presence of enclosed gases under



ETCHED SECTION OF SAME NUGGET, SHOWING CRYSTALS.

pressure, but when the nuggets showing these blisters or blebs were immersed in a solvent and the walls of the blebs slowly dissolved away, there was no escape of gas.

"Subsequent investigations showed that the nuggets yielded but very small quantities of permanent gas, when examined at a high temperature in vacuo for occluded gases, and it was found that the vapor given off was mainly that of water mixed with some sulfur dioxid and air. The water vapor was probably derived from the hydrous oxid of iron and argillaceous matter enclosed in the nuggets, and the sulfur dioxid from pyrites or other sulfur-containing minerals. . . . . .

"Attempts were made to prepare artificial nuggets by electrolytic deposition; around wires, fairly thick masses were obtained, the sections of these showing well-defined rings and traces of crystalline structure; the rings or successive coats were clearly due to changes in the strength of the current and of the solution. Masses of fused gold were also cut, polished, and etched, and in all cases a strongly marked crystalline structure was visible.

"A plate of copper was thickly coated with gold electrolytically and etched, but only a minute crystalline structure was obtained. A fillet of nominally pure silver presented a minutely crystalline structure, quite unlike the gold fillets. For comparison an ingot of tin was etched by nitrohydrochloric acid; the ingot weighed about 20 pounds. The well-known '*moire-metallique*' structure became visible immediately on moistening with the acid; the etching was continued until about ¼ inch in depth had been dissolved away; the outlines of the crystals apparently underwent no change, and the surface remained quite smooth; none of the crystals were dissolved away more quickly than the others, and no grooves were eaten along their edges. The gold nuggets, ingots, and fillets behaved quite differently, that is, grooves were eaten out at the junctions of the gold crystals, and some were sunken below the others so that the etched surfaces of the gold could be printed from, and the differences of level seen and felt; nothing of the kind happened with the tin ingot.

"A great deal requires to be done to complete this investigation, but as far as it goes it proves that gold nuggets do not show that they have been built up of concentric coatings round a nucleus, but that they possess a well-marked internal crystalline structure and that they usually enclose foreign substances, also that a similar crystalline structure is shown by gold which has been fused; I do not, however, think that native gold has necessarily been in a fused condition; on the contrary, I think it has been deposited from solution and usually within veins or pockets in rocks, altho if it had been deposited round nuclei it might still have possessed the crystalline structure which has been described and figured."

DUSTLESS BUILDINGS.

IT is one of the disadvantages of our modern methods of heating and ventilating large buildings that the air forced into them from without for either or both of these purposes distributes large amounts of dust, especially in a city where soft coal is burned. A successful method of straining out this dust before the air enters the building is described by C. J. H. Woodbury in a paper read before the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and published in *Cassier's Magazine* (January). In the building experimented on by the author, 26,000 cubic feet a minute were forced in from without at a velocity of 700 feet per minute. Says Mr. Woodbury:

"The means taken to remove the foreign substances from the air were the use of cotton-cloth filters so arranged that the air should approach the fabric at an acute angle, by which the momentum would carry these particles beyond a point where the element of air under consideration would pass through the filter, and the particles of dust would be carried by the place, and, striking the cloth at a lesser angle, tend to glance off and be carried to the bottom of the filter, rather than to clog the interstices in the fabric. The area of the filters being larger than that of the flue, the rate of filtration was inversely slower than the velocity of the air down the flue.

"The means by which this was accomplished were very simple. A timber frame, divided by partitions into fine rectangular openings, was placed at the top of the flue, and under each opening was placed a bag whose top was attached to a light wood frame slightly larger than the opening, making a tight fit, so that the air entering the flue must pass downward into these bags, which were over thirty feet in height. An arrangement of guides, ropes, and pullies enabled the bags to be raised and lowered by a person at the bottom of the flue. The bottoms of the bags were made open, and closed with a drawing-string, and hoops kept the lower portion distended. An arrangement of lines extending along the sides from end to end facilitated turning inside out and back again when they were being cleaned. . . . . .

"The area of the flue was 3¾ per cent. of that of the bags, and while the air passed down the flue at a velocity of 700 feet per minute, it passed through the fabric at 26 feet per minute. From half a peck to a peck per month of fine dust was gathered from the bags.

"The efficiency of the device was tested by placing freshly painted boards at the bottom of the flue before the installation of the apparatus, and then giving another coat of paint after the apparatus was in service. In the first instance the fresh paint collected fine dust until it resembled fine sand-paper, and in the second the paint dried with a smooth surface."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

REASONS FOR BEING A CANNIBAL.—According to a French writer named Petrie, whose conclusions are quoted in *The Medical News*, twenty per cent. of all cannibals eat the dead in order to glorify them; nineteen per cent. eat great warriors in order that they may inherit their courage, and eat dead children in order to renew their youth; ten per cent. partake of their near relatives from religious motives, either in connection with initiatory rites or to glorify deities, and five per cent. feast for hatred in order to avenge themselves upon their enemies. Those who devour human flesh because of famine are reckoned as eighteen per cent. In short, deducting all these there remains only a proportion of twenty-four per cent. who partake of human flesh because they prefer it to other means of alimentation."

"CURIOUS things occur in the operation of underground trolley systems," says *Electricity*. "When the electric current was first turned on the down-town section of the Madison Avenue line in New York to test it, the night before the cars were to start running, the current breaker for that section popped out with a bang, denoting a short circuit somewhere along the line. As there was nothing in the vicinity to account for this, it was finally decided to follow the slot along from the power-house and find the trouble. This was done, and after some hours the trouble was located at the curve where the line turns from Fourth Avenue into Astor Place. There some laborer, extra careful of his shovel, which was his own property, had stowed it away for the night handle down and with the blade carefully pressed up diagonally between the two current-bearing conductors. When the men tried to remove it they found it was firmly welded to each rail and had subsequently to be cut away with chisels. It was a fortunate thing for the laborer that the current was not turned on when he stowed the shovel away so carefully."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

A CHURCH WAR CLAIM.

NOT a little feeling has been stirred up in Methodist circles, North and South, over the action of our national Congress in voting an appropriation of $288,000 to indemnify the Methodist Church South for "the use, occupation, consumption, and destruction of property" of its publishing house at Nashville, Tenn., at the time of the occupation of that city by the Union forces during the war. In behalf of the claim for damages it is argued that the Southern Methodist Publishing House was a neutral institution, that it is charitable in its objects, its profits going to superannuated ministers, and that it is asking only what has already been granted to some churches and educational institutions in the South.

But the claim is strongly opposed by several Methodist and other religious journals in the North. *The Northwestern Christian Advocate* (Chicago), which has taken the lead in opposition, is very determined and emphatic. It says:

"One of the worst features in the issue is the fact that this gift, if consummated, will be like the memorable bursting of the Johnstown reservoir, which fatally flooded the whole region. It has required over a third of a century to formulate the specious arguments in whose absence even Democratic and Southern congressmen have not dared to vote a dollar of 'damages' to reward this astonishing claim. The floods of application have hitherto been withstood almost successfully. Any future claim (and thousands will follow) however large and absurdly swollen, can not be resisted as this Methodist claim has been resisted for more than thirty years. Here and there smaller sums have been given to Roman Catholics, and some interested parties are now pleading that, therefore, the Protestant claims should be awarded. It now is possible for Romanists to renew their applications and seek to intimidate any timid congressman by declaring that the great Roman Catholic Church must not be ignored or discriminated against, and shall not be so disregarded with impunity. This Southern Methodist claim has lingered for all these years in part because its denial has been a bulwark against exhausting floods of like constructive claims. We hold that no plea of fraternity has the right to break a padlock from a treasury door by force of any such argument. If Methodists in the North wish to prove their generosity, let them appeal to Methodists to contribute Methodist money. It is easy to pay debts or assumed obligations with other people's money. We earnestly believe with President Grant that no such claims should be paid, even to those whose loyalty is undoubted."

The Michigan *Christian Advocate* (Detroit) also speaks its mind forcibly in regard to the claim for damages. It says:

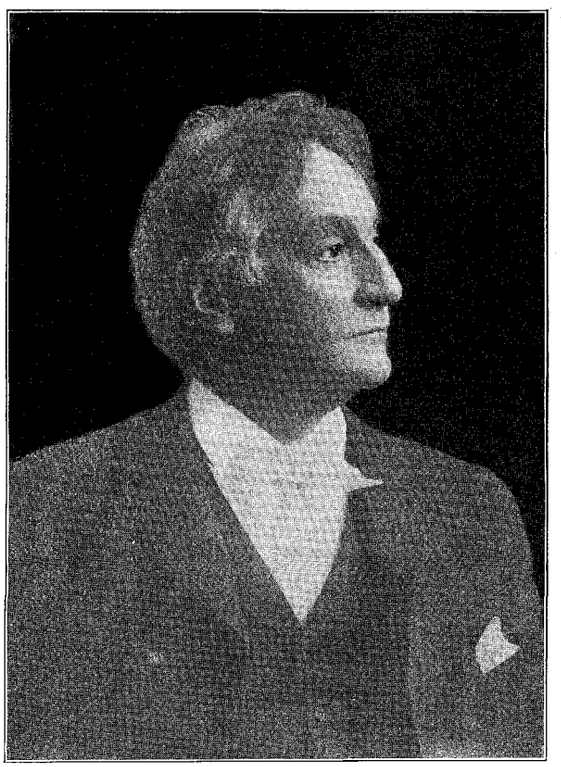
"Our Southern Methodist friends are congratulating themselves because the lower house of our national Congress has passed a bill indemnifying their church for alleged damages to their book concern by Union troops in war times. It seems that the federal army took possession of the Southern Methodist Publishing House; piled up its wares in a corner, and turned its spacious rooms into a hospital for the sick and wounded. The actual damage to the building could not have been great, and the business was badly demoralized anyway, yet, under the plea of 'loyalty,' our friends have long claimed damages to the extent of a half-million dollars, and have finally actually captured a verdict from the queer-headed Congressmen who voted for the measure of $288,000. Happily the bill is not yet law. It must pass the Senate and gain the signature of a man whose loyalty to the Union cause is less in question than that of the Southern Methodists. In view of the action of the House, *The Epworth Era* says, 'Let us love one another.' So we will. And let us all love justice and cherish honor. And let us protest to our Senators that they will do well to shove that bill on sight into the deepest pigeonhole of the Senate archives to remain until the crack of doom."

For a view of the matter from another denominational quarter, we have this from *The Journal and Messenger* (Baptist, Cincinnati):

"It is one of the most barefaced impositions ever perpetrated upon the people, and ought to be decried by every loyal citizen. Not only is the sum named exorbitant, but it is fraudulently obtained; for every one ought to know that the Methodist Church South was built upon slavery, and that the war was for the perpetuation of slavery, and that it is merely a play upon words when it is said that the Methodist Church South was not neutral. Its members were, almost to a man, in sympathy with the Confederacy just as truly as were any other of the Southern people; and while it can not be said that 'the church,' as an organization, was hostile to the Government, it ought to be enough to say that the majority of its members were hostile. The institution itself was hostile, having slavery at the root of its organization."

DR. HEPWORTH'S INVESTIGATION IN ARMENIA.

REV. DR. GEORGE H. HEPWORTH, who was sent to Armenia several months ago by the New York *Herald* to investigate the massacres of two years ago and report thereon, has concluded his mission and returned to this country. When Dr. Hepworth went out the fear was expressed in many quarters,



REV. DR. GEORGE H. HEPWORTH.

and especially among the religious journals (see LITERARY DIGEST, December 4, 1897), that the investigation would be one-sided and of little value, since Dr. Hepworth went out in the employ of a journal that had apparently committed itself to the defense of the Sultan under all circumstances. But Dr. Hepworth's letters from Armenia, and especially his later ones in which he summed up the situation as he found it, have materially changed the views of those who had pronounced his mission a failure from the start. It is conceded by most that Dr. Hepworth did creditable service in getting at the truth of the situation in Armenia, that he brought to light some valuable facts, and that his conclusions, on the whole, are entitled to grave consideration.

These conclusions are, in brief, that the Armenian massacres were caused by the Armenian revolutionists. These men, it is

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said, stirred up the villages of the interior with the hope of autonomy, declaring that the powers were ready to rush to their aid and make them into a sort of Bulgaria. England and Russia are arraigned for sympathizing with the Armenians, the former for sentimental and the latter for political reasons. England is responsible, it is said, for a great deal that has taken place, encouraging the Armenian refugees and reformers and "inciting them to do work which has already involved their countrymen in almost irretrievable ruin."

Dr. Hepworth speaks in the highest terms of the character of the Christian missionaries and of the value of their work. He exonerates them from the charges of being breeders of mischief, and commends them for their wisdom, tact, firmness, and courage in the face of many dangers and sore trials.

In an editorial review of Dr. Hepworth's report on Armenia, the New York *Observer* finds some things to commend and some to criticize. In the latter direction it says:

"Instead of getting at the main points at issue, Dr. Hepworth has shown a discouraging tendency to emphasize side issues. He has not lifted the whole of the question, but has here and there grasped an outlying fact. The great incontrovertible overshadowing matter is the wretched misgovernment and cruel oppression of the Turk. That a few Armenian agitators or foreign sentimentalists complicated matters was a mere incident. The fact was that if the time was not, indeed, ripe for revolution, the Armenian mind, strained to the limit of endurance, was ripe for some determined, if desperate, attempt at protest. An Armenian will stand a great deal, but no man will stand everything. Of course, the Armenians were too poor, too few, too scattered, and too defenseless to revolt successfully, and that the Turks were really afraid of them we do not believe. The motive in the massacres was not so much a 'mental aberration,' to use Dr. Hepworth's phrase, the result in a general Turkish panic, as it was a racial hatred to a degree, but a bitter fanaticism for the most part."

After giving a summary of Dr. Hepworth's finding, *The Independent* says:

"Readers of *The Independent* know very well that we have never defended the harebrained schemes and atrocious plans of revolutionists, but they also know that we do not believe that the responsibility for the massacres rests primarily upon them, except in a few cases. In most there was not even the pretext of revolutionism, and where there was it rested on such slight foundation as to be absurd. That the Turkish Government was panic-stricken or that it suffered from temporary aberration we do not believe. In Bitlis, which Dr. Hepworth visited, in Diarbekir and elsewhere the massacres were threatened days in advance, and, when the time came, commenced and closed with the signal of the bugle. That does not betoken panic or fright. We believe that the verdict of history will be that these, in some respects the most atrocious massacres the world has ever known, were deliberately carried out for purposes of political influence and private pillage. They were Islam's defiance to Christendom."

The Northwestern Christian Advocate (Methodist Episcopal) is not pleased nor satisfied with the outcome of Dr. Hepworth's investigation. It says:

"During the most of his journey it seemed as if Dr. Hepworth was the chief item discovered by himself, but from the mass of words sent back are a few notable elements. It seems incredible that the Armenians massacred themselves, but so it is, according to the discoverer, who says that the massacres were caused by Armenian revolutionists, and that if these 'had been quiet there would have been no massacres.' The chief value in this conclusion is that it relieves the Turk, who surely has needed some sort of an acquittal. When 100,000 people have been murdered it would seem that any reasonable Armenian, be he revolutionist or not, certainly ought to have taken that bloodily broad hint and have 'kept quiet.' There are many 'quiet' Armenians. One hundred thousand surely are very quiet and permanently quiet. How much more does the Turk require? We have such confidence in merciful people, outside of Turkey and the Hepworth party, that we doubt not that they will refuse to believe this discoverer and his verdict. He says that the Congregational Church has mission interests in Armenia to the extent of $2,000,000. Some of it has been destroyed. Were the missionaries not 'quiet'?"

Neither is *The Standard* (Baptist, Chicago) inclined to take a favorable view of the investigation. It says:

"He [Dr. Hepworth] does not, as some expected he would, whitewash the Turkish administration or belittle the horror of the massacres, but he does attempt to support the utterly inadequate conclusion that the plots of a few hundred Armenian revolutionists were the sole cause of the difficulties, and that if the revolutionists had kept quiet there would have been no massacres. Thus, while he holds the Turkish Government responsible for the atrocities, he believes that the Sultan did not deliberately plan the destruction of his troublesome Armenian subjects. We fail to see what has been accomplished by this much-advertised journey of Dr. Hepworth."

An editorial note in *The Advance* (Congregational, Chicago) reads as follows:

"Dr. George H. Hepworth's investigation of the Armenian massacres for the New York *Herald* has added little to what is known concerning them, and in most points confirms the original accounts. The chief peculiarity of his report is the importance which it attributes to the Huntchagist Armenian revolutionary societies as a cause of the massacres. This is merely an opinion of Dr. Hepworth, and it is an opinion discredited by the best authorities. The Sultan used this as an excuse, but it is a palpable pretext. There never has been the slightest evidence that any but a pitiful few were connected with the societies, and to make this an excuse for the wholesale slaughter of a race is worse than no reason at all. The massacres were deliberately planned, they were not uncontrollable outbreaks either of fear or frenzy. The Sultan stopped them as readily as he began them, when policy dictated the step."

GRANT ALLEN'S "EVOLUTION OF THE IDEA OF GOD."

GRANT ALLEN has frequently complained that the reading public's lack of appreciation for purely scientific literature has forced him to devote his talents to the production of fiction. Those who have grieved over this diversion of Mr. Allen's talents from the realm of science may be partially consoled by reading "The Evolution of the Idea of God," a volume of 450 pages, in which Mr. Allen has given what purports to be a scientific explanation of the growth of the idea of God, and the evolution of Christianity from the religious beliefs of primitive man. The author has been engaged for twenty years in the collection and comparison of materials for this work, and has devoted a part of his time for ten years in writing it.

Beginning with the question, "How did we arrive at our knowledge of God?" Mr. Allen has undertaken to trace out the idea of God from its earliest and crudest dawnings in the savage mind, up to the abstract form which it assumes in modern theological and philosophical thinking. Regarding the problem thus presented as essentially a question of the processes by which the human mind has reached its present position, the consideration of the validity of the various religious beliefs is put aside as a matter which does not concern the present inquiry. The real question to be answered is: Why did men ever come to believe that there were gods; and why from many gods did they arrive at a belief in one?

To aid in explaining the development of early religious cults Mr. Allen gives first a brief examination of Christianity, and discusses how far it can be used as a standard of reference in studying other religions. Following a summary of the facts in regard to the origin of Christianity, as to which there is a general agree-

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ment, the features in which it may be accepted as a typical religion are thus stated:

"In the first place, Christianity is thoroughly typical in the fact that beyond all doubt its most central divine figure was at first, by common consent of orthodox and heterodox alike, nothing other than a particular deified Man. All else that has been asserted about this particular Man—that He was the Son of God, that He was the incarnation of the Logos, that He existed previously from all eternity, that He sits now on the right hand of the Father—all the rest of these theological stories do nothing in any way to obscure the plain and universally admitted historical fact that this divine Person, the very God of very God, being of one substance with the Father, begotten of the Father before all worlds, was yet, at the moment when we first catch a glimpse of Him in the writings of His followers, a Man recently deceased, respected, reverenced, and perhaps worshiped by a little group of fellow peasants who had once known Him as Jesus, the son of the carpenter. On that unassailable rock of solid historical fact we may well be content to found our argument in this volume.

"In the second place, Christianity is thoroughly typical in all that concerns its subsequent course of evolution: the gradual elevation of its central venerated Man into a God of the highest might and power; the multiplication of secondary deities or saints by worship or adoration of other dead men and women; the growth of a graduated and duly subordinated hierarchy of divine personages; the rise of a legend, with its miracles and other supernatural adjuncts; the formation of a divine theology, philosophy, and systematic dogmatism; the development of special artistic forms, and the growth or adoption of appropriate symbolism; the production of sacred books, rituals, and formularies; the rise of ceremonies, mysteries, initiations, and sacraments; the reverence paid to relics, sacred sites, tombs, and dead bodies; and the close connection of the religion as a whole with the ideas of death, the soul, the ghost, the spirit, the resurrection of the body, the last judgment, hell, heaven, the life everlasting, and all the other vast groups of concepts which surround the simple fact of death in the primitive human mind generally."

The points wherein Christianity to a small extent fails to be typical, or at least to solve the fundamental problem of religion, are given:

"It fails to be typical because it borrows largely a whole ready-made theology, and above all a single supreme God, from a pre-existent religion. In so far as it takes certain minor features from other cults, we can hardly say with truth that it does not represent the average run of religious systems; for almost every particular new creed so bases itself upon elements of still earlier faiths; and it is perhaps impossible for us at the present day to get back to anything like a really primitive or original form of cult. But Christianity is very far removed indeed from all primitive cults in that it accepts ready-made the monotheistic conception, the high-water mark, so to speak, of religious philosophizing. While in the frankness with which it exhibits to us what is practically one half of its supreme deity as a Galilean peasant of undoubted humanity, subsequently deified and etherealized, it allows us to get down at a single step to the very origin of Godhead; yet in the strength with which it asserts for the other half of its supreme deity (the Father, with His shadowy satellite the Holy Ghost) an immemorial antiquity and a complete severance from human life, it is the least anthropomorphic and the most abstract of creeds.

"Furthermore, Christianity fails to be typical in that it borrows also from preexisting religions to a great extent the ideas of priesthood, sacrifice, the temple, the altar, which, owing to the curious disappearance or at least unrecognizability of the body of its founder (or, rather, its central object of worship), have a less natural place in our Christian system than in any other known form of religious practise. It is quite true that magnificent churches, a highly evolved sacerdotalism, the sacrifice of the mass, the altar, and the relics, have all been imported in their fullest shape into developed Christianity, especially in its central or Roman form. But every one of these things is partly borrowed, almost as a survival or even as an alien feature, from earlier religions, and partly grew up about the secondary worship of saints and martyrs, their bones, their tombs, their catacombs, and their reliquaries."

Proceeding to the study of religious origins, Mr. Allen defines the words "god" and "religion." After a reference to the fear-created monsters of mythology, such as the Hebrew Satan or the Etruscan devils, he says:

"None of these, however, is a god or anything like one. They have no more to do with religion, properly so called, than the unicorn of the royal arms has to do with British Christianity. A god, as I understand the word, and as the vast mass of mankind has always understood it, is a supernatural being *to be revered and worshiped*. He stands to his votaries, on the whole, as Dr. Robertson Smith has well pointed out, in a kindly and protecting relation. He may be angry with them at times, to be sure; but his anger is temporary and paternal alone; his permanent attitude toward his people is one of friendly concern; he is worshiped as a beneficent and generous Father. It is the origin of gods in this strictest sense that concerns us here, not the origin of those vague and formless creatures which are dreaded, not worshiped, by primitive humanity.

"Bearing this distinction carefully in mind, let us proceed to consider the essentials of religion. If you were to ask almost any intelligent and unsophisticated child, 'What is religion?' he would answer offhand, with the clear vision of youth, 'Oh, it's saying your prayers, and reading your Bible, and singing hymns, and going to church or to chapel on Sundays.' If you were to ask any intelligent and unsophisticated Hindu peasant the same question, he would answer in almost the self-same spirit, 'Oh, it is doing poojah regularly, and paying your dues every day to Mahadeo.' If you were to ask any simple-minded African savage, he would similarly reply: 'It is giving the gods flour, and oil, and native beer, and goat-mutton.' And finally if you were to ask a devout Italian contadino, he would instantly say, 'It is offering up candles and prayers to the Madonna, attending mass, and remembering the saints on every feast.'

"And they would all be quite right. This, in its essence, is precisely what we call religion. Apart from the special refinements of the higher minds in particular creeds, which strive to import into it all, according to their special tastes or fancies, a larger or smaller dose of philosophy, or of metaphysics, or of ethics, or of mysticism, this is just what religion means and has always meant to the vast majority of the human species. What is common to it throughout is custom or practise; a certain set of more or less similar observances: propitiation, prayer, praise, offerings; the request for divine favors, the deprecation of divine anger or other misfortunes; and as the outward and visible adjuncts of all these, the altar, the sacrifice, the temple, the church; priesthood, services, vestments, ceremonial."

Having thus laid down the principle that religion is essentially a matter of practise and not of faith, Mr. Allen finds the basis and root of all religions in the familiar theory, elaborated by Herbert Spencer, of ancestor-worship, or acts of deference by the living to the corpses or ghosts of the dead. This theory is supported by quotations from the Rev. Duff Macdonald, a Presbyterian missionary to Central Africa, showing the prevalence among the lowest existing savages of something like spirit-worship, with the continual creation of new gods. From the worship of mummies and ghosts Mr. Allen considers that of tombs, shrines, and temples covering graves; tombstones, altars, images or statues representing the ghosts of the dead; the stakes, idols or household gods; and the sacred trees growing above burial-mounds. His theories on the growth and relation of these various forms of ancestor-worship are largely based on the writings of Herbert Spencer, Prof. Robertson Smith, J. G. Fraser, author of "The Golden Bough," Dr. E. B. Tylor, William Simpson, Dr. Mommsen, Edward Clodd, Sidney Hartland, and Prof. John Rhys, and of other travelers, missionaries, and historians, to whom he acknowledges his indebtedness.

His preliminary survey of the nature and origin of gods in general having convinced him that all the sacred objects of the world are either dead men, or something representing them, Mr. Allen next takes up the question—How from the belief in many gods did men progress to the belief in one single God, creator and upholder of all things? In answering this question he first

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considers the deities of Egypt as having influenced the development of the gods of Israel. Of the latter he says:

"The only people who ever invented or evolved a pure monotheism at first hand were the Jews. Individual thinkers elsewhere approached or aimed at that ideal goal, like the Egyptian priests and the Greek philosophers; entire races elsewhere borrowed monotheism from the Hebrews, like the Arabs under Mohammed, or, to a less extent, the Romans and the modern European nations, when they adopted Christianity in its trinitarian form; but no other race ever succeeded as a whole in attaining by their own exertions the pure monotheistic platform, however near certain persons among them might have arrived to such attainment in esoteric or mystical philosophizing. It is the peculiar glory of Israel to have *evolved God*. And the evolution of God from the diffuse gods of the earlier Semitic religion is Israel's great contribution to the world's thought.

"The sacred books of the Jews, as we possess them in garbled forms to-day, assign this peculiar belief to the very earliest ages of their race; they assume that Abraham, the mythical common father of all the Semitic tribes, was already a monotheist; and they even treat monotheism as at a still remoter date the universal religion of the entire world, from which all polytheistic cults were but a corruption and a falling-away. Such a belief is nowadays, of course, wholly untenable. So also is the crude notion that monotheism was smitten out at a single blow by the genius of one individual man, Moses, at the moment of the Hebrew exodus from Egypt. The bare idea that one particular thinker, just escaped from the midst of ardent polytheists, whose religion embraced an endless pantheon and a low form of animal-worship, could possibly have invented a pure monotheistic cult, is totally opposed to every known psychological law of human nature. The real stages by which monotheism was evolved out of a preceding polytheism in a single small group of Semitic tribes have already been well investigated by Dutch and German scholars; all that I propose to do in the present volume is to reconsider the subject from our broader anthropological standpoint, and show how in the great Jewish god himself we may still discern, as in a glass, darkly, the vague but constant lineaments of an ancestral ghost-deity."

The conclusions drawn from a study of Jewish evolution from polytheism to monotheism are thus summarized:

"Among many Hebrews gods Jahweh (Jehovah) was originally but a single one, a tribal ancestor-god, worshiped in the form of a cylindrical stone, perhaps at first a gravestone, and regarded as essentially a god of increase, a special object of veneration by childless women.

"From this rude ethnical divinity, the mere sacred pillar of a barbarous tribe, was gradually developed the Lord God of later Judaism and of Christianity—a power eternal, omniscient, almighty, holy; the most ethereal, the most sublime, the most superhuman deity that the brain of man has ever conceived."

As might be expected from the nature of his conclusions, Mr. Allen's book has stirred up the critics. Among others, a reviewer in *The Academy* says:

"Mr. Grant Allen begins his book with Mr. Herbert Spencer's assertion that all religious ideas took their rise in the worship of dead men. But he does not seem to know, or at any rate gives us no hint, that this theory has been so signally refuted by Prof. Albert Réville and others, that no writer of authority on the history of religions now thinks it worth while even to refer to it. Mr. Herbert Spencer's position really carries its own refutation along with it; for in setting it up he has to avow his disbelief in the existence of animism, or the mental stage in which primitive folk believe every object in animate or inanimate nature to be possessed of a volition and passions like their own. And not only are savage races known who are confirmed animists, without in any way worshiping their dead, but we see the phenomenon of animism repeated in the strictly analogous case of our own children. The first baby who beats the table against which he has knocked his head demolishes Mr. Herbert Spencer's theory at one blow."

BUDDHISTS IN AMERICA.

THE Christian Literature Society for India, London, and Madras, have sent out a pamphlet on "Swami Vivekananda and His Guru," which contains matters of general interest to American readers. The first of these will be found in certain quotations of statements made by Swami Vivekananda, which we quote here in full:

"The great Srí Ramakrishna to-day is worshiped literally by thousands in Europe and America, and to-morrow will be worshiped by thousands more."

"Before ten years elapse a vast majority of the English people will be Vedántists."

"I helped on the tide of Vedánta which is flooding the world."

"In the United States scarcely is there a happy home. There may be some, but the number of unhappy homes and marriages is so large that it passes all description."

"Scarcely could I go to a meeting or a society but I found three quarters of the women present had turned out their husbands and children. It is so here, there, and everywhere."

The Outlook quotes these utterances of Vivekananda and says in regard to them:

"We did not attend Swami Vivekananda's meetings in this country, and it is possible that three quarters of the women who flocked to hear him had turned out their husbands and children, tho we had not supposed that his audiences were quite so bad as that. But the notion that the great Srí Ramakrishna is worshiped by thousands in America, and to-morrow will be worshiped by thousands more, scarcely needs any refutation.

"The refutation is, however, afforded by the replies which the editor of this pamphlet has obtained from a great number of leading Americans of different faiths and localities. A few of these utterances may serve as samples of the forty-five letters published. Dr. Angell, of the University of Michigan: 'The question which you ask about the possibility of Americans adopting Hinduism or Mohammedanism strikes every one in this country as simply preposterous. It is difficult to treat it with soberness.' Dr. Boardman, of Philadelphia: 'My impression is that if he [Swami Vivekananda] has made any converts at all, they have come either from the ranks of those who already were or thought themselves to be theosophists, or from people of restless, vague, adjustable unbelief.' President Eliot, of Harvard University (and it is in Boston, if anywhere, that theosophy has flourished): 'The report circulated in India that Swami Vivekananda has made converts in America from Christianity to Hinduism is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, absolutely without foundation. I have never heard in this country of a single convert from Christianity to either Hinduism or Mohammedanism.' Judge Grosscup, of the District Court of the United States, Chicago: 'I have heard of but one American who is devoting herself to Hinduism, and I do not think the Christian Church will be much shattered by her going over.' Archbishop Ireland, of St. Paul, Minn: 'I know America well, and I have never heard of any followers of this gentleman or of his doctrine.' These quotations indicate the judgment of men well informed, broad-minded, not afraid to look facts in the face, and cognizant of the conditions in their several sections and circles."

In a later issue of *The Outlook*, Lewis G. Janes, president of the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, takes issue with the editor and professes to see considerable advance made by Buddhism in America.

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

The Baptist, of London, declares that that denomination is not advancing in England, but is losing ground. The writer points to various possible causes of decay. One is the prevalence of open communion, and the practical lowering of the denominational banner. But he adds: "Of course there are other open secrets of our failure to record a higher membership of *bona-fide* and baptized believers. The absence of pronounced and distinctive gospel preaching in certain quarters must ultimately issue in the death of Baptist principles."

SOME young men in looking out into life fear to enter the ministry, says *The Herald and Presbyter*, because it is represented to be overcrowded. "Yet last year there were only about 8,000 young men studying for the ministry in all the theological seminaries of the country, while there were 23,000 studying medicine and more than this number studying law. All the professions are crowded for those who do not strive constantly to excel. Numbers of men will be unsuccessful in every calling in life. This means that every one should put forth all his efforts with all intelligence and tact. The ministry will have room always for thousands of the best young men to be found, and these need not fear to enter it."

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

GERMANY AND THE SAN JOSÉ BUG.

THERE seems to be little doubt that the partial exclusion of American fruit from Germany is intended as a hint that the German Government is quite as willing to protect its farmers against our competition as we are ready to assist our manufacturer against the competition of the German. On the other hand, the San José bug really has frightened the authorities of the Fatherland. The Conservative papers suggest that Americans should study their own tariff and that of Germany ere they utter complaints.

The *Kreuz-Zeitung*, Berlin, thinks "the Americans show that they lack all sense of fairness." The *Neuesten Nachrichten*, Berlin, says:

"The people who to-day, in America, make a row because American fruit is not admitted without scrutiny are the very ones who caused the violation of our treaty with the United States by a differential duty on our sugar. It is quite probable that the Government is glad of a chance to reciprocate; only, the import of American fruit should have been prohibited altogether. The present regulation costs a lot of money and causes a lot of bother."

Bismarck's paper, the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, asserts that "the Americans have a bad conscience in the matter, that is why they are insolent about it." The *Boersen Courier* does not think we have just cause for complaint. The *Tages Zeitung* points out that we ourselves take good care to keep out infections when it suits us. It says:

"It should be remembered that agricultural produce is as much protected in the United States as manufactured articles. The importation of cattle, for instance, is prohibited outright. Special permission must be obtained for it, and the Treasury Department may withdraw this permission at any time, or order a quarantine for cattle, which is long enough to make importation impossible. There is not yet a federal law against the importation of fruit and plants, but California has such a law, and many plants intended for import are destroyed in San Francisco."

The *Reichs Anzeiger* says:

"It is in consequence of the report of the American Bureau for Agriculture that the inspection was ordered. This report admits that there is hardly an insect so dangerous to the cultivation of fruit in the United States and in the world in general as this San José bug. The plants attacked by it soon show its effects and are gradually destroyed altogether. The bug increases very fast: a single female is calculated to have three thousand in one summer. The different States of the Union protect themselves as best they can against this plague, and we must follow suit. Mere prohibition of the importation of fruit and plants infected will not suffice. The agricultural population must be instructed how to combat the evil."

But, however just the partial exclusion may be as a protection against the San José bug, there is little doubt that the German Government regards our differential tariff as unjust and thinks of reprisals. Secretary of State v. Pasadowsky, in answer to a parliamentary interpellation, expressed himself to the following effect:

If the Americans do not like to see their produce excluded from competition with our own, they should do to others as they would be done by. We must defend ourselves. We can not alter existing treaties, and must wait until they run out. But in the mean time we must have a new tariff, which will enable us to make better terms in new treaties. We intend to be prudent, and will not unnecessarily cause a tariff war. The time may come, however, when we will be forced to give up our policy of passive resistance. It will require some skill to determine the right moment, and the Government must be allowed to determine when it has arrived.

The *Nation*, Berlin, which follows faithfully the tactics of the British Manchester school, expresses itself, in the main, as follows:

If the bug is really dangerous, the Government must, of course, be permitted to defend the farmer against its importation. But we fear its importance has been exaggerated. The Agrarians evidently aim at protection for their own produce. That, however, can not be granted in a country whose population increases by three quarters of a million annually, and which has an export trade of nearly $1,000,000,000. We do not believe that the Government inclines toward protection in principle, and circumstances will prevent the Agrarian trees from growing into heaven. Yet it is easy to see that, if the coming election furnish an Agrarian-Conservative majority, the Government will be forced to do its will to some extent."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

BRITAIN'S THREATS AND ISOLATION.

FOR some months past the British press has not ceased to assert that England has an inalienable right to trade in Chinese ports, whatever nation may hold them, and that she will use this right to make every port in the Celestial Empire equally free to all comers. Mr. Chamberlain asserted that England must do this "unless she was willing to be reduced to a fifth-rate power," and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach declared that England would fight in support of this doctrine. The majority of British papers surmise that such a threat to invoke the decision of arms is based upon the willingness and readiness of the Government to fight, and even the sober financial papers take up the cry. Thus we find in *Money*, London, the following:

"Altho the country as a whole has not quite grasped the fact, this Chinese question is of vital importance to commercial England. The leaders of commerce in this country understand the question full well, and as the importance of it filters down to the masses the Government will have their hands strengthened by the knowledge that in this instance the country is behind them. . . . The world is England's oyster, and if need be she will use the sword to open it. When the shell has been forced open let who will search for pearl; the oyster will suffice for us. The issue before us is plain enough. To give way now would only be to place ourselves at a greater disadvantage in any future conflict. If the struggle for existence is to take place let it come at once, when the nature of the conflict, if not the odds, are in our favor."

The report that Russia had ceased to oppose Great Britain found ready credence. "The case is very simple," said *The St. James's Gazette;* "even with the armed support of France and Germany, Russia would have a hard task in the Eastern seas. Without that support she is helpless, and she knows it. That is why she is so gracefully backing out." The colonial papers also have taken up the cry. *The Witness*, Montreal, says:

" . . . the word war has now been spoken, and the nation is jubilant. . . . It is a very serious matter, however, that the word war has been said, for it is a word from which there is no going back. The leaders of the Liberals have hastened to confirm it, and the only question with even the Radicals is whether the Government means it or not. It will now be for other nations to retire, for Britain can not. The other nations can, for with all their fleets and libations and mailed fists they have taken no position as yet which Britain disputes. The positions from which Russia in Manchuria and Germany in China must retire are only the logical outcome of those they have taken. The same is to be said of France's supposed invasions of the Upper Nile."

The Montreal *Herald* says:

"The significance of the situation as it has been thus defined by the British Minister lies in the fact that Great Britain makes allies of her real rivals. . . . China has, in fact, been one of the very best customers for a line of cheap cotton goods, which England has been able to produce at a lower price than any other nation in the world. Singularly enough, it is the United States,

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more than any other country, that has of late years begun an actual competition with Great Britain. Japan, too, as every one knows, aims at holding for herself in the East a position like that of Great Britain in the West, and has come to regard the Chinese Empire as peculiarly the field for Japanese exploitation. Cotton-making has become already almost a national industry in Japan, and the building of mills and buying of improved machinery is still going on.

"We are therefore the more called upon to admire the unfaltering challenge of Great Britain to the powers, inasmuch as, by going to actual war, Britain would be protecting those interests which might be looked upon as more opposed to her own than would be those of the powers she would have to fight."

In view of these almost unanimous threats of warlike intervention the *Vossische Zeitung*, Berlin, remarks: "We can now be assured that peace is nowise threatened. The fact that the British say they will make war proves it." A promise on the part of Russia that Talien-Wan shall be made a treaty port when Russia has extended the Transsiberian railway to it, seems now be to all that Lord Salisbury requires, and calmer moods already begin to prevail in England. *The Westminster Gazette* even warns its readers that they must not be disappointed if England fails to get the Chinese loan, and says:

"We advise our readers not to place too much reliance on the loan, which may easily miscarry, but to fix their attention mainly upon the treaty right, which, whether the loan fails or succeeds, will still be the pivot of our Chinese policy. . . . As a writer in *The Fortnightly* puts it in an excellent phrase, we claim to apply a Monroe doctrine to China. Here is matter serious enough in all conscience, and if any crisis threatening hostilities arises in the far East, it will be from our Chinese Monroe doctrine and not from the loan-treaty. . . . What if Russia and France stand together to deny our treaty rights, at least as regards Port Arthur, or if they obstruct the conversion of Talien-Wan into a treaty port? There lies the point of danger, not immediate, but a little ahead of us in the future. Let us think it out very carefully."

This is regarded as excellent advice by many papers, especially since Russia has not yet "backed out," gracefully or otherwise. The *Novosti*, St. Petersburg, says:

"Russia has no intention to permit the establishment of a free port either in Talien-Wan or in Port Arthur. In conjunction with Germany and France, she will oppose all attempts to encroach upon the interests of the three powers under the guise of commercial freedom. Moreover, it will not be long ere the British authorities must cease to bother about China. They will have more important business to attend nearer home. England must concentrate her energies in India, where a rebellion much worse than the revolt of the Sepoys is fomenting. Russia would be able to make herself felt there if she chose. We could place 100,000 men on the Afghan frontier in a very short time."

SEE-SAWING.—*The Herald, New York.*

The assumption that Kiao-Chou will be made a free port after the manner of the treaty ports, is based upon an erroneous interpretation of the intentions of the German Government. The German Minister for Foreign Affairs, v. Bülow, officially declares that Germany, anxious to open up the trade of Shantung, will make Kiao-Chou as free as the British possession of Hongkong. The *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, says:

"Kiao-Chou is German territory, and will be treated as such. If it is violated, the Emperor will have as much right to declare war even without the advice of the *Bundesrath*, as if Germany proper had been invaded. Treaties concluded with China by other powers have no force there, and concessions such as for the exploitation of mines will, of course, be given to Germans only."

The *Journal des Débats*, Paris, thinks this is perfectly satisfactory, and that England certainly has no right to complain since she acts in precisely the same way wherever she is mistress. The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, wants to know how England will explain her present demand for absolute international freedom to trade with the endeavors of Mr. Chamberlain to close the colonial markets to foreign competition. Everywhere on the continent the check suffered by England causes expressions of pleasure, and this is explained by the freedom of the British press in casting insults upon other nations and their governments. The *Nachrichten Hamburger* quotes Bismarck's saying that "every nation must sooner or later pay for the windows its press has smashed," and asserts that "England, the country least able to go to war, pays for the conduct of the press by her helpless isolation." A similar feeling seems to gain strength in England itself. *Cosmopolis*, London, says:

"Meanwhile, this seems a good opportunity to make a remark called for by the language of a section of the English press. It is becoming the fashion to attach comparatively little importance to the plans and utterances of the German Emperor. . . . In fact, to put it bluntly, we, as a people, are getting into the habit of laughing at him. There could hardly be a more foolish or a more dangerous mistake. Not even a German would deny that His Majesty speaks impulsively, and that his enthusiasms succeed each other with almost startling rapidity. But this is part of the superficial manifestations of genius. For the German Emperor is a man of genius. . . . It may well be that he will yet make history. We should hope that this will not be at our expense. Our press and people have often treated him both unfairly and vulgarly."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE FAMINE IN RUSSIA AND ITS CAUSES.

THE Russian peasants on the Don and the Volga are threatened again with a serious famine. Some fifteen to eighteen millions of people, according to official computation, are in danger of serious want. This is all the worse as they have not yet recovered from the terrible drought in 1891. There are districts on the "black soil" where 20 per cent. of the peasants are without horses and can not properly turn the soil. As usual, drought, accompanied by a plague of insects, increase of field mice, and inundations are mentioned as causes of the famine. An article in the *Tägliche Rundschau*, Berlin, nevertheless, goes to show that the "acts of God" are not solely the cause of the Russian peasants' misery. We quote as follows:

"There is no doubt that the Russian peasants, who possess almost incredible ability to bear hardships of this kind, will again get over the worst of the famine without a great catastrophe. The inherent power of resistance in the Russian people has always enabled them to do so without serious loss to their national strength. This power is so great that the nation as well as the

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individuals of which it is composed can bear misfortunes which would be fatal to others. Our own military authorities know this fact well enough; they have not forgotten the lessons which were taught Prussia as early as the times of Frederick the Great.

"But this can not remove the fact that Russia is now threatened with chronic evils which imperil its economic life. The causes may be described as follows: 1. The increase of the peasant population, which does not have a corresponding increase of agricultural produce to offset it. 2. Ruthless exploitation of the arable soil crust. 3. The present system of municipal ownership. 4. A change for the worse in the climatic conditions of the country, as a consequence of the systematic destruction of the forests. With regard to the first point it must be remembered that when, in 1861, serfdom was abolished in Russia, the soil was divided between the owners and the now liberated peasants. The share of the latter was not too large even then. Since then their number has increased very much, and the acres now given to each householder are not sufficient to provide for the wants of his family. This would not matter if the peasants could emigrate; but there is no longer any unoccupied land in European Russia.

"Moreover, the methods employed in farming have gone from bad to worse. As the peasant can not own the land he tills, but has a new plot assigned to him every three years, he has no interest in the improvement of the soil. Communal supervision does not appear to be a success. Every one tries to get as much as possible out of the land, which, for the time being, is under his care. It must, however, be acknowledged that the great landowners, tempted by easy means of transportation furnished by the railroads, have also ruthlessly exploited the soil. Lastly, the destruction of the forests. Enough has been written in 1891 and 1892—during the great famine—to show that the cutting down of all the trees without planting new ones causes inundations in the spring and droughts in summer."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE JEW AND THE BRITON.

ANTISEMITISM is censured a good deal lately in papers which can not be said to take their inspiration from the Jews. The *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, points out that French antisemitism has no very great justification, since the Jews in France number less than 60,000, and many of the wealthy ones brought their fortunes with them from Germany and Austria. An English magazine, *The Contemporary Review*, gives space to an article by John A. Dyche, who endeavors to show that in England, too, there is little cause to oppose Jewish emigration. The writer, himself a Hebrew and a tailor by trade (a continental contemporary remarks humorously that if he handles his needle as ably as his pen he is wise to make his living with the former), makes a comparison between English and immigrant Jewish working men, which we condense as follows:

There are many popular fallacies regarding the Jews. First of all, the public regard them as much more numerous than they really are. Next comes the idea that the Jews work for less than the native English, and that they oust English workmen from their places. As a matter of fact the Jew earns larger wages than his English competitor. Thus at Leeds the members of the Tailors' Union earn 5 pence per hour. Smart Jewish tailors earn seldom less than 6 and often more than 8 pence. Under these circumstances it seems rather ridiculous to say that the Jew takes the bread out of an Englishman's mouth. That Jewish employers can fill contracts cheaper than English ones is true enough, but it is *not* because they grind down their workmen, but because they are satisfied with less profit themselves. In the workshops of Jewish employers, the men are much less exploited than in establishments owned by Englishmen. Nor have the Jews forced any establishment to close on account of their competition. They have opened new factories.

But what causes this superiority of the Jews. Firstly because they have more brain than Englishmen, and secondly because their character is better. A Jewish workingman is, to a certain extent, an artist. His work may not always be as solid and lasting as could be wished, but it is well finished and tasteful. The Englishman, on the other hand, is merely a laborer. His work is like his temperament, his food, his drink; it is strong, lasting, solid, but also uncouth, unrefined, tasteless. In fashion and taste the English are compelled to follow the foreigner. The Jews, now, have introduced a style of manufacture with which the English, on account of their slowness, can not keep pace. It is due to the Jews that a workingman may nowadays buy a well-fitting, new suit of clothes for the price he formerly paid for second-hand things, and the very trades-unionists who grumble so much about Jewish and foreign competition avail themselves of these advantages.

In character the Jew is much superior. He has greater respect for women, and is never known to send his wife to a factory to earn money, as Englishmen will do. He takes greater care of his children, and loses less of them. New York statistics show this better than anything else. There were, in 1890, 180,000 Jews in New York. During the six preceding years the death-rate among them was only 6.2 per thousand as against 28 per thousand among the Irish, 23 per thousand colored, 20.6 per thousand English, 17 per thousand German, and 16 per thousand Americans.

Lastly, the Jews lead more moral lives than the English. This is well known among people who are competent to judge. In the East End of London some of the worst places have been improved since the Jewish emigrants settled there. Such quarters as Flower Street, Dean Street, Brady Street have become safe and quiet. In Whitechapel the difference between streets inhabited by the English and those occupied by foreigners is very marked. In the former, filth, drunken persons of both sexes, and crime. In the latter, order and quiet and an absence of obscene and disgusting language.

The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, remarks that this article is very timely. "It would be a good thing," says our contemporary, "to place it before the jingoistic antisemite howlers and writers in Paris, if only they knew enough to read anything not written in their own language."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FOREIGN NOTES.

Is Turkey beginning to reform? Forty-six Armenians, including two Protestant ministers, have been released at Bitlis. The courts found that the charge of high treason could not be supported. On the other hand four Kurdish chieftains have been found guilty of robbery and deported under long-term sentences.

THE Portuguese have received with unbounded enthusiasm Monsignore de Albuquerque, Royal Commissioner for Mozambique. De Albuquerque opposes all advances of the British Government in the Delagoa Bay question, and the Portuguese people seem determined to hold on to all colonies still possessed by them. Hence it is unlikely that the Portuguese Government will accept British offers, however advantageous, even if France and Germany did not interfere; especially as Mozambique is a paying colony.

MAJOR V. HANNEKEN, formerly in the service of the Chinese Government, confirms the report that Shantung is an excessively poor province. He does not think the trade of Kiao-Chou will he worth more than six or seven million dollars annually for many years. He asserts however, that the Germans are better off in Shantung than they would have been elsewhere in China. The people of Shantung are the most energetic and physically the most able race in China. The province can not export tea or silk, but it has immense coal-fields, and a European nation willing to work can make it an industrial center. All that is necessary to make the natives loyal is to treat them justly.

IT has often been noticed that the Prussian Government regards every man who makes his living in Germany as valuable to the country so long as he does not actually defy the authorities. This is shown specially in the case of the Polish immigrants. Nearly 100,000 of them have settled during the past few years in the industrial districts of Rhenish Prussia and Westphalia. They bring their Polish habits with them, preserve their nationality as much as possible, and take advantage of the regulations which permit them to have Polish schools with subsidized teachers. They do not even pretend to be loyal German citizens. But so long as they do not actually revolt, the Government does not interfere, confident that the descendants of these immigrants will be all the authorities desire.

TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD is a quiet London street, but it has an international reputation, for an Anarchist club meets there whose members were badly frightened last Christmas. A tenant of the house in which the club holds its meetings had bought a plum-pudding, which he forgetfully left on the doorstep upon entering. A foreign Anarchist came along, noticed the suspicious-looking vessel, and rushed up-stairs to warn his friends. There was no doubt of it! Some vile slave of the powers that be had placed a bomb to destroy the friends of freedom. Shouts for the police rent the air, and a heavy-footed London "cop" was commissioned to remove the dangerous object. His language is said to have been more expressive than classical when he discovered the true nature of the package, especially as the wife of the owner of the "bomb" appeared to claim it for her dinner.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

LAFAYETTE IN COURT AND CAMP.

ON a foundation of biography a new writer, handling a familiar theme (Edith Sichel's "The Household of the Lafayettes"), has erected a structure of history which at once engages the attention and compels the admiration of the reader. Hers is an *esprit* most appropriately Gallic—vivacious, epigrammatic, satirical, keen, yet quick to adjust itself to situations of sentiment, pathos, and tragedy. She is at home in the salon, happy in the cottage, and brave in the prison; as a critic in *The Speaker* aptly puts it, she just misses creating a work of genius by transforming her story of the Revolution into a novel without a hero.

"We expect [says this critic] fine things of Lafayette—the Grandison-Cromwell whom Mirabeau summed up in two words and flung off his path in disdain—but we get only a noble sort of schoolboy, immature, sanguine, gullible, soft-hearted, and domestic, the most absurd antithesis to Napoleon that ever was. . . . Mme. Lafayette was the hero, not her husband; he was nothing else than a hat and feathers, with a tricolor cockade. Yet this strange political scarecrow did some notable feats in his time. In America, where he seemed to have a breath of life in him, the Marquis helped to beat Cornwallis and take him at Yorktown; he uttered the magic dissolving word, 'States-General'; he saved the King and Queen at Versailles on October 6, 1789; he presided, as we may say, at the second abdication of Napoleon; and he floated with his plumes over the three days of July, and made Louis Philippe King of the French. An active scarecrow! unless we bear in mind that he neither called out, nor directed, nor could really master, the forces by which he was moved. The man was a sign, not a sovereign—a formula, an empty case, a French Washington (that is to say, not an American one), and a Cromwell, who began and ended, like Sir Charles Grandison, bowing over the hand of his mistress, the Revolution, in an attitude of chivalrous imbecility."

A "scarecrow," but not in politics only; for in the salons to which beauty, grace, and wit had *entrée*, the idealistic and quixotic young noble was to be found, "lean, red-haired, hook-nosed, awkward," with his retreating forehead, his prominent eyes, his expression full of vague inquiry, his invincible oddness, which seemed grotesque even in circles where oddness was cultivated as a charm. And this was the "Impossible"—the pure and brave enthusiast, strangely joining integrity, goodness, devotion, dignity with an incredible vanity, dulness, and obstinacy—whom we presently find the accepted lover and husband of Adrienne de Noailles, daughter of the saintly Duchess d'Ayen, sister of the martyred Vicomtesse de Noailles, and of Mme. de Grammont and Mme. de Montagu.

Of this family *The Speaker* thus speaks:

"They filled the court; they occupied the foremost places in the camp and in the church. They had a tradition of piety, good-nature, and benevolence, which expanded as the new era came on into a spirit of boundless self-sacrifice. There were four daughters, trained by their mother, the Duchesse d'Ayen, to all high courtesies, to religion, to simplicity, on a method which savored, perhaps, of 'Emile,' but which proved to be intensely Christian. It is not surprising, therefore, that on one day (July 22, 1794) three generations of the Noailles perished on the scaffold in a quarter of an hour; Mme. la Maréchale; her daughter-in-law, the Duchesse d'Ayen; and her granddaughter, the Vicomtesse de Noailles. 'They were accused,' says Miss Sichel, 'of conspiring with a person unknown to them, and dead at the time of the alleged plot, to assassinate the Committee of Public Safety.'"

And these were the flowers of simplicity, devotion, and self-abnegation that survive to us, to smell sweet and blossom in the gold dust and the face-powder of the *ancien régime*, with its enchanted vice and its sensational starvation; its Cupids and groveling slaves; its curtsies, its minuets, and its insolent high hats; its wax candles and its intrigues; its ladies in patches and powder, playing at *les Graces* with gentlemen in three-cornered hats and pink satin waistcoats—"gentlemen who occasionally hunted peasants instead of stags."

In the Paris of that day there was a restricted circle which was omnipotent. The ruler of this coterie and the tyrant of good tone was the famous Maréchale de Luxembourg, who, in spite of a naughty youth, became in her old age a martinet about behavior. Once she overheard somebody remark that God was no respecter of persons and would take no note of good or bad tone. "You are mistaken, madame!" was all she replied, more in sorrow than in anger.

Very delightful in her amusing oddness was Mme. de Tessé, an aunt of Mme. Lafayette—a warm-hearted free-thinker, who had been a stanch friend of Voltaire. While she regarded the priests as peculiarly liable to error, she made them the ministers of her charity, and poured her bounty, with a free hand, upon such of them as were in distress. She lived in the world of wits and scholars, where dulness was the only sin, and thought, however daring, could never be impious. Her strongly marked features were full of character, but she had no beauty except her abundant black hair, and her face was marked with smallpox. Eccentric in all that she said, thought, or did, she gave herself away, in manners as in everything else, with the vehement generosity that animated her.

"Perhaps Mme. de Tessé inherited her eccentricity, tho not her intellect, from her far less notable mother. The Maréchale was the exception to the Noailles law of saintliness. She presents an erratic contrast of family pride, stately childishness, and conventional vagaries. Devout she was, but her piety took the dubious form of religious kleptomania. She could not keep her hands off sacred relics, and on one occasion it required all the Noailles' influence to rescue her from excommunication; she had stolen the arm of Ste. Genevieve from the chapel of some nuns, pounded it and dissolved it in some medicine to cure the Duc d'Ayen, her eldest son, of scarlet fever. With some difficulty, they extricated her from her dilemma, only to learn a few days afterward that a precious eucharistic chalice had disappeared from another church in like manner. She had other habits, equally innocent, impious, and inconvenient. For instance, she kept up a constant correspondence with the Virgin Mary, posted her letters in a dovecote, and never suspected that it was her priest who answered them. 'What familiarity!' she once exclaimed; 'this little *bourgeoise* of Nazareth addresses me as "Dear *Maréchale de la Troisième-ligne*"—but I must remember that she is my Savior's mother' (here she bowed her head), 'and, after all, she *does* come of the royal house of David.'"

"Even while we laugh," writes her biographer, "there rises before our eyes a vision of this same lady borne in a tumbril, with uncomplaining dignity, to the scaffold. Her aberrations are not the part of her by which she will be best remembered."

One night, in 1776, the old Marshal de Broglie, commander of the forces at Strassburg, gave a dinner in honor of the Duke of Gloucester, who was in disgrace with his royal brother, George III. Being lighthearted and malicious, he regaled the company, at the King's expense, by a humorous account of the smashing of the tea-chests in Boston harbor. This was the first that Paris had heard of American independence, and among the audience—officers in blue and silver, Strassburg grandees in gold lace and velvet, laughing, exclaiming, gesticulating—was one silent, serious young soldier, who might have seemed insignificant but for his eager eyes, and indifferent but for his intent attitude and expression. Nobody noticed him. After dinner he strode over to the Duke and spoke for the first time: "I will join the Americans—I will help them in the fight for freedom. Tell me how to set about it."

"This was the Marquis de Lafayette, now nineteen years old, the adoring husband of a lady who returned his attachment;

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already the father of one child, and now expecting another. The anecdote is an epitome of the man. He was ruled by two passions—the one for his wife, the other for freedom; and the latter was the stronger of the two. In his amorous pursuit of liberty under all her Protean forms—a pursuit sometimes stern, always sanguine, and maintained through a long life—he has never been rivaled, unless it be by Mr. Gladstone in our day."

The d'Ayens stormed; Adrienne prayed for guidance; but Lafayette went to London, and boldly aired there his sympathy for the rebels, laughed in his sleeve when he was presented to the King, danced at the house of the Secretary for the Colonies, and went to the opera to meet General Clinton, whom he afterward encountered at the battle of Monmouth.

"Benjamin Franklin was then in Paris, receiving such ovations in his marten-fur cap and fustian suit as the old Spartan had never dreamed of. Parties were given in his honor, at which the most beautiful women were chosen to embrace him in turn, and place wreaths upon his head. A medal, with his portrait and an Olympian motto, was struck and even shown to the King. No man of quality was complete without a ring or a snuff-box with his medallion. 'These,' he wrote to his daughter, 'have made your father's face as well known as that of the moon, so that he durst not do anything that would oblige him to run away, as his phiz would discover him wherever he should venture to show it.'"

Presently we find Lafayette in the American camp. Washington took to the new recruit at first sight; "he was attracted by his modesty," and accompanied him to the camp at Annapolis. To his wife, Lafayette wrote: "This noble man, whose gifts and goodness I admire, whom the more I know the more I revere, wishes to be my friend. His tender interest in me has won my heart. I am established in his house; we live in mutual intimacy and confidence." To quote Miss Sichel again:

"We are apt to look upon Washington rather as a national institution than a man; he has grown to be an abstract of liberty, or a type, like Moses and Daniel. But his friend makes him a human creature, with a heart that beat quickly enough, as well as soul that soared high. The Washington that Lafayette shows us is a dignified mixture of courage, sense, honor, and minute kindness. When, nearly fifty years later, Lafayette revisited the whitewashed walls of Mount Vernon, it seemed to him a shrine for solitary pilgrimage—a shrine of familiar recollections, grave and gay, and the fitting expression of its owner's simple, unchanging character.

"Presently we find the two wintering together at Valley Forge, while the commander was training his troops in the face of every hardship. There was freezing cold without; stupidity and ignorance within."

In 1779 the Marquis, after a sharp attack of fever, decided to return to France. He made for Paris, passing through Versailles—was congratulated, questioned, introduced to the ministers, and arrested; but his prison was the beloved Hotel de Noailles. All the ladies in Paris came post-haste to embrace him—all the Ministers to consult him. The King summoned him to Versailles, reprimanded, embraced him, set him free. Then came his popular vogue; at the theater, the remotest allusion to his career was greeted with outbursts of applause. It was all delightfully French.

In 1780 he returned to America, accompanied by the Vicomte de Noailles, Messrs. de Luzerne, de Chastellux, de Montesquieu, and others.

When Cornwallis capitulated, there was panic in England. Lord George Germain was asked how the Premier, Lord North, had taken the news. "As he would have taken a ball in the breast; for he spread his arms, exclaiming wildly, as he paced up and down the apartment, 'O God, it is all over!'" in the greatest agitation and distress.

"And then the Deluge"—and "the Terror." It has all been told, again and again, but never with more ghastly vividness and tragic irony than in these pages.

And thus the case of this noble but "impossible" enthusiast is summed up by the critic of *The Speaker*:

"Lafayette, a soldier at nineteen, without education in politics, or an eye for experience, or the slightest tincture of practical wisdom, ought never to have meddled with affairs of state. Excellent is the saying which we find in our author's judgment of him: 'Lafayette had the density which belongs to all minds nourished on a fixed idea'—density marks his features, an impenetrable dulness to the realities that lie in front and that solicit, nay, importune, his gaze. But he will never see them. He is looking over them at the horizon, far away. His integrity was a part of his dulness. When Napoleon, by the treaty of Campo Formio, shattered his prison-doors, and let him go free, in company with the noble wife who had shared his cell, and who was to die of the blood-poisoning contracted there, Grandison-Cromwell—tho the Cromwellian part of his rôle had not become impossible—dreamt of the Constitution of '91, of an American President, and a Bonaparte that should emulate Washington. He could not be undeceived till 'the tyrant,' as Miss Sichel briefly calls him, was crowned with the circlet of Charlemagne. Then he woke up, protested silently, was the one man, as Napoleon said in his wrath, who would not bend where all the world worshiped, and so remained, pure and obstinate, till the bad dream vanished again. . . . . .

"But it is the Lafayettes, even more than the Robespierres, who make revolutions tragic; for, had he shown himself acquainted with the secret of his admired Washington, there never could have arisen a Robespierre to send his wife to the Luxembourg and her family to the guillotine. He could not 'swallow his formula,' and his formula came very near swallowing him."

INJURIOUS FUNERAL USAGES.

APROPOS of the recent movement by pastors of churches in the West for the discouragement or suppression of useless and expensive funeral customs, *The Examiner* (Baptist, New York) expresses its own views on the desirability of such a reform. To begin with, it cites a number of recent well-known cases when men have contracted a fatal illness while standing exposed in inclement weather at the graves of friends. One of these was Sir Frank Lockwood, an eminent member of the English Parliament, who died recently from the effects of such an exposure. Proceeding from these instances, *The Examiner* says:

"A kindred sacrifice of the living to the dead is seen in the expectation, especially at rural funerals, that the pall-bearers shall personally lift and carry the casket, perhaps from the house to the church, perhaps from the house to the hearse, and again from that to the church. In this there is a historical impropriety. The 'pall' was the black cloth which anciently covered the coffin; the pall-bearers, as an expression of respect and affection, bore the corners of the pall. The pall-bearers usually are persons not used to lifting heavy burdens; and they have to act at every disadvantage in carrying a great weight, perhaps upstairs, through narrow aisles, or lifting it over pews. We have known instances where the bearers have been seriously injured by the strain to which they have been subjected. The coffin should be carried by men employed for that purpose, who, by reason of strength and practise, can discharge this service without hardship to themselves.

"It is sometimes thought a mark of respect to the deceased to delay the funeral. This practise often involves great hardship, especially to the poor and those who live within very narrow space, and it is attended with grave sanitary dangers. In one instance within our knowledge a family of five were living in a single room, and when a child died the body remained in the room for, perhaps, three days. Such practises should be forbidden by law.

"'The viewing of the remains' is another practise harrowing to the family and often leading to most painful expressions of grief, and sometimes tending to perpetuate and spread disease. Was ever anything more repulsive than the spectacle presented, when the body of the Czar was carried from town to town and kissed by tens of thousands?"

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

The feature of the week affecting trade in general has been, of course, the *Maine* disaster, and the growing conviction, as the work of the board of inquiry progresses, that the "accident" theory will be disproved. This has caused hesitation in some large business operations and may account, in part, for a check in the rapid advance in the price of wheat. On Monday the price reached 108 75, but almost immediately declined 3½ cents. There was a sharp decline also in Standard Oil and some other speculative securities. New business, however, is unprecedented for the dull season. Payments through clearing-houses for the week have been 57.5 per cent. greater than last year.

Wheat and Corn.—"Wheat continued its progress upward until 108.75 was reached on Monday but declined 3¼ cents later, as if there were fear that Spain would somehow stop British vessels from taking wheat across the water. Any yielding based on foreign possibilities deserves little notice, but the price has advanced about 10 cents since Chicago speculators last took occasion to shake off weak followers, and the opportunity for a reaction was inviting. There is no abatement of foreign demand. Atlantic exports were 1,968,814 bushels, flour included, for the week, against 1,326,444 last year, and Pacific exports 1,576,376 against 136,464 last year, and in view of current excitement these figures are more important than the aggregate for four weeks, 10,496,912 bushels, against 6,588,415 last year from Atlantic ports, and 4,053,028 against 1,611,246 from Pacific ports. Corn exports for the week were 14.5 per cent. less than last year, but the cash price declined but slightly. The spot price of cotton was not affected."—*Dun's Review, February 26.*

Iron and Steel Products.—"The demand for iron and steel at the West still continues large and prices are firm. A feature of Chicago trade has been the placing of an order for 5,000 tons of steel rails for a railroad in Alaska. Almost equally good reports come from the Northwest, where trade is reported either fully equal to or ahead of last year. Among the advances of the week might be mentioned Bessemer pig, with a slight gain, sugar, lard, and Lake Superior copper, which latter product is reported in a very favorable position statistically. The decreases, largely speculative, or due in some measure to uncertainty as to the political outlook, include wheat, corn, and pork."—*Bradstreet's, February 26.*

Cotton, Wool, and Other Textiles.—"It is not the season for much improvement in textile manufacture, but the cotton branch has gained by the closing of the strike in one Fall River mill, and by addition of some works at the South. The woolen manufacture meets many cancellations, especially in goods sold early without definite price, but is doing more than ever at this season, tho new business in the higher grades of worsteds and woolens is not particularly encouraging. Sales of wool are slow, with weakness in clothing, amounting to about two cents decline from the highest point, indicating that mills have at present abundant stocks, but some are selling foreign wool in order to take supplies of other qualities. In goods of medium and low grades the demand continues large. The silk manufacture shows a remarkable increase during the last six months, having imported raw material far in excess of consumption in any previous year, and at a rate 120 per cent. above the imports in the last census year."—*Dun's Review, February 26.*

The Money Market.—"The money market has been stronger, with a net outgo of $2,500,000 currency from New York, interior banks preparing for spring settlements. An important statement shows that seventeen banks are now loaning 42 per cent. on commercial paper, after the extensive liquidation, against 64 per cent. in April, 1896; 77 per cent. in April, 1895, when customers were largely carried by the banks, and 72 per cent. in the panic period of 1893. Failures for three weeks have been $7,293,439 against $10,619,784 last year, and $10,889,986 in 1896. Manufacturing were $3,266,280 against $5,498,042 last year, and $4,480,577 in 1896, and trading $3,784,351 against $4,763,034 last year, and $5,478,105 in 1896. Failures for the week have been 283 in the United States against 296 last year, and 30 in Canada against 50 last year."—*Dun's Review, February 26.*

Canadian Trade.—"Stormy weather and Lenten observances have checked the volume of demand and distribution in the Dominion of Canada. Demand from the country has been heavily reduced, except where lowered railway rates in special cases made for large traffic at some towns. The rate war between the two great Canadian roads is reported giving both all they can do to handle business offering, and locomotives are being borrowed to help move traffic. The Klondike trade is active at both Montreal and Toronto, and it is estimated that $2,000,000 will be spent this spring at these two cities in outfittings. A large spring business is anticipated when the roads improve. In the maritime provinces business is checked by bad weather. The coast of Newfoundland is blocked with ice, and shipping business is consequently interfered with. From the Pacific coast of the Dominion come reports of activity in Klondike trade. Up-country trade is rather slow. Business failures in the Dominion of Canada this week number 45, against 38 last week, 50 in this week a year ago, 52 in 1896 and 44 in 1895. Bank clearings at six Canadian cities aggregate $27,533,463, a falling-off of 3 per cent. from last week, but a gain of 35.7 per cent. over last year."—*Bradstreet's, February 26.*

PERSONALS.

CARROLL D. WRIGHT, United States Commissioner of Labor, is receiving many congratulations over his recent election as a member of the Institute of France and of the Imperial Russian Academy of Sciences.

A CORRESPONDENT of the London *Spectator* tells this story to illustrate the biting humor of the late Charles Pelham Villiers: "The anecdote," he says,

WE have recently made some exquisite Spring Dresses for leading New York society ladies and prominent actresses, who are famed for the good taste which they display in the selection of their toilettes. Photographs of these ladies and the garments which we made for them are shown in our new Spring Catalogue, which is now ready.

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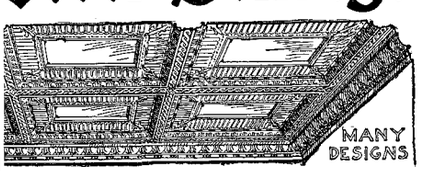

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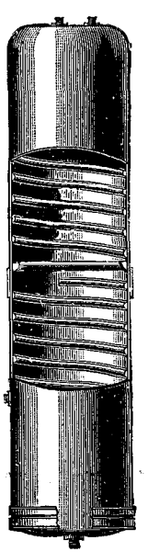

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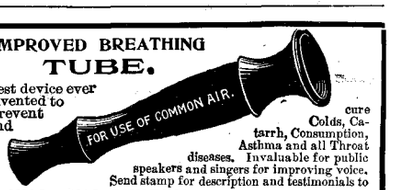

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"must be reproduced with unorthographic exactness. Half its point would be lost if it were translated into the Queen's English. Mr. Villiers had been asking a Radical elector to support him. 'Yes, I'll support you. But, Willars, we must have a diwision of property!' 'Certainly,' replied the diplomatic candidate; 'I should be quite in favor of such a measure. But I am afraid that if property is divided there will not be enough for you and me and the rest of us.' After a momentary embarrassment the cheerful and resourceful Socialist hit on a remedy: 'Why, then, Willars, we must diwide again!'"

SPEAKING of ex-President Frey, of Switzerland, Dr. Leroy Dibble, of Kansas City, says: "I lived in Switzerland nearly two years, and had the pleasure of talking over old war days with the President of the republic. When a young man he came to this country, in 1857, and settled in Illinois. When the war broke out young Frey enlisted in an Illinois regiment as a private, and he served with distinction, being promoted to lieutenant. Frey was captured and was confined for a long time in Andersonville Prison, and was one of the three men who escaped. Soon after this his father died, and he returned to Switzerland to manage the property. He afterward became President of the republic."

THE following, according to the Buffalo *Commercial*, is a complete list of the maiden names of the mothers of the Presidents of the United States: Washington, Mary Ball; John Adams, Susanna Boylston; Jefferson, Jane Randolph; Madison, Nellie Conway; Monroe, Eliza Jones; J. Q. Adams, Abigail Smith; Andrew Jackson, Elizabeth Hutchinson; Van Buren, Maria Hoes; Harrison, Elizabeth Bassett; Tyler, Mary Armistead; Polk, Jane Knox; Taylor, Sarah Strother; Fillmore, Phœbe Millard; Pierce, Anna Kendrick; Buchanan, Elizabeth Speer; Lincoln, Nancy Hanks; Johnson, Mary McDonough; Grant, Hannah Simpson: Hayes, Sophia Birchard; Garfield, Eliza Ballou; Arthur, Malvina Stone; Cleveland, Annie Neal; Harrison, Elizabeth Irwin; McKinley, Nancy Campbell Allison.

A READER of THE LITERARY DIGEST writes to make a correction of fact. In speaking of our note (in this column in our issue of February 12), relative to the appointment of Captain W. W. Rich, formerly Chief Engineer of the Wisconsin Central, and later connected in the same capacity with the Canadian Pacific to be Director General of Railways in China, our correspondent (who is connected with the staff of *The Railroad Gazette*, of this city) writes: "It will be impossible for Mr. Rich to be appointed to this office as it is already occupied by a Chinese official. At the time this rumor became current, I telegraphed to people likely to know about this appointment, and also wrote to the Chinese Consulate in New York City, who reported that he knew nothing of the appointment and did not believe that it could be made. Captain Rich, as I understand it, is on a three months' leave of absence from his duties as Chief Engineer of the Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Sault Ste. Marie Railway, and is merely looking for an opening on government railways."

Current Events.

Monday, February 21.

The *Maine* disaster **investigation** begins. . . . The case for the **defense** in the **Lattimer shooting case** of Sheriff Martin and his deputies is **opened**. . . . **Captain** Eulate, **of the Spanish cruisea** *Vizcaya*, in New York harbor, **calls** on **Admiral Bunce** at the Navy Yard, General Merritt at Governor's Island, and Mayor Van Wyck at the City Hall. . . . Congress—Senate: **A resolution instructing** the committee on naval affairs **to investigate the** *Maine* **disaster** is **passed**, and an **appropriation of $200,000** for an examination of the wreck is voted; the census bill is discussed. House: The day is spent in consideration of private bills.

The *Maine* **court** of inquiry reaches Havana and **holds its first session**, with Captain Sigsbee as a witness; a conference is held with the Spanish officers who are likewise conducting an investigation; in Madrid Premier **Sagasta announces** that the reports of divers, since confirmed, prove the disaster to have resulted from **accident**. . . . **Summing up in the Zola trial** in Paris, an address to the jury is delivered by the advocate-general, and sensational addresses are made by MM. Zola and Labori. . . . The **Swiss referendum** has resulted in popular **approval** of the proposed **state purchase of the railroads** of Switzerland.

Tuesday, February 22.

A **contract** for **work on the hull of the** *Maine* is signed by the Navy Department and the wrecking companies. . . . **President McKinley delivers an oration** before the faculty and students of the University of Pennsylvania. . . . **Ex-President Harrison** makes an **address** on **"The Obligations of Wealth"** at the Washington Birthday celebration in Chicago. . . . Rear-Admiral Bunce, Major-General Merritt, and Consul-General Baldasano return the official call of Captain Eulate, of the Spanish cruiser *Vizcaya*; the *Vizcaya* takes on coal. . . . There are a number of flag-raisings and other patriotic celebrations of Washington's Birthday. . . . Congress—Senate: A **bill** providing for **two more** additional **regiments of artillery** is **passed** by a vote of 52 to 4. House: The sundry civil appropriation bill is under consideration; the feature of the debate is a speech by Mr. Johnson, of Indiana, against annexation of Hawaii.

The *Maine* **court** of inquiry **begins taking testimony** at Havana. . . . The Marquis of Salisbury reads a telegram from the British Ambassador at Paris, in which it said that **France disclaims all intention of usurping British territory** in Africa. . . . M. Labori makes a strong speech **continuing the defense** in the **Zola** trial. . . . The report of an **Anglo-German loan** to China is **confirmed**, and China makes important trade concessions to foreign countries.

Wednesday, February 23.

Latest information in regard to the *Maine* disaster received in Washington shows that a **boiler explosion could not have been the cause**; two of the wrecking boats leave this city for Havana. . . . Postmaster-General Gary and the governor of South Carolina offer **rewards** for the **arrest** and **conviction** of the **murderers of Baker**, the **negro postmaster** at Lake City, S. C. . . . Marine **insurance companies raise their** rates on **vessels** in **Klondike regions**. . . . **Governor Black**, of New York, **signs canal investigation bill**. . . . Congress—Senate: Mr. Allen's **Cuban belligerency rider** to the diplomatic appropriation bill is **laid on the table**. House: The sundry civil appropriation bill is considered.

The *Maine* **court** of inquiry **examines several officers** of the lost battle-ship at its session in

A PECULIAR FACT.

Thousands of People Have Dyspepsia in its Worst Form and Do Not Know It.

A weak stomach is the cause of about nine-tenths of all disease, yet in most cases the wrong thing is treated and the true cause overlooked.

This is because a weak digestion produces symptoms resembling nearly every disease, because it weakens and disturbs the action of every nerve and organ in the body; poor digestion causes heart trouble, kidney troubles, lung weakness and especially nervous break down or nervous prostration; the nerves cannot stand the wear and tear unless generously fed by well digested, wholesome food.

Keep the digestion good and no one need fear the approach of disease.

Mrs. H. M. Lee, of Rochester, N. Y., writes: For the sake of suffering humanity I want to say that from a child I had a very weak stomach, threw up my food very often after eating, and after a few years nervous dyspepsia resulted and for more than twenty years I have suffered inexpressibly.

I tried many physicians and advertised remedies, with only temporary relief, for nervous dyspepsia, and not until I commenced taking Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets last September, six months ago, have I been free from suffering caused by the condition of my nerves and stomach; in short, chronic nervous dyspepsia.

I have recommended Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets to many of my friends, and now I want, in a public way, to say that they are the safest, pleasantest, and, I believe, surest cure for stomach and nerve troubles. I write my honest opinion, and I will gladly answer any letter of inquiry at any time and feel that I am, in my small way, helping on a good cause.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets is not a patent medicine, but they contain only the fruit salts, digestive acids and peptones necessary to help the weak stomach to promptly and thoroughly digest food.

All druggists sell Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets at 50 cents for full-sized package, and any one suffering from nervous dyspepsia, sour stomach, headaches, acidity, gases, belching, etc., will find them not only a quick relief but a radical cure.

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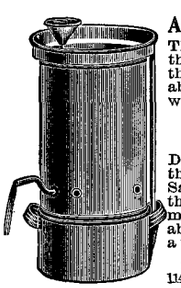

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Havana harbor; it is said that every survivor of the *Maine* will be examined. . . . MM. **Zola** and Perreux are found **guilty** by a Paris jury and sentenced **to be imprisoned and fined**; the novelist's sentence being **one year** in prison **and 3,000 francs fine,** the maximum penalty. . . . The squadron of **Prince Henry** of Germany and two Russian war-ships **arrive at Singapore.** . . . **Canon Wilderforce** addresses a service **in memory of Frances E. Willard** in London.

Thursday, February 24.

Secretary Long denies that any **information regarding the** *Maine* disaster **has been suppressed,** and advises the public to suspend judgment until the court of inquiry reports. . . . There is much **activity among naval vessels**; the monitor *Terror* leaves the Norfolk Navy Yard under sealed orders. . . . The Portland (Ore.) Chamber of Commerce passes **resolutions urging Congress to withdraw** the **bonding privilege** from the **Canadian Pacific Railroad.** . . . A meeting of **Cubans** to celebrate the **third anniversary** of the beginning of the **struggle for independence** is held in this city. . . . Francis M. Bunce, commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, is commissioned rear-admiral. . . . Congress—Senate: **Mr. Allen withdraws** his **Cuban resolution.** House: A bill for the relief of the families of the victims and the survivors of the *Maine* disaster is introduced.

The *Maine* court of inquiry holds another session in Havana harbor. . . . Premier Méline replies strongly in the **French Chamber of Deputies** to the interpellations regarding Zola's trial; the Chamber **votes confidence in the Government,** 416 ayes to 41 noes; counsel for MM. **Zola** and **Perreux** file notices of **appeal** in behalf of the two convicted defendants. . . . Prince Henry of Germany lands at Singapore from the cruiser *Deutschland*. . . . The **pledge of Russia** to Great Britain **to keep** the **ports of China free** is quoted *verbatim* in Parliament; one half of the **Chinese loan** is **underwritten** in London, the amount, $40,000,000, being **oversubscribed.** . . . **Mr. Gladstone** will undergo **operation** for necrosis of the nose.

Friday, February 25.

The *Maine* **disaster** is informally **discussed by the Cabinet,** but no new information is received; Secretary Long has taken a brief vacation. . . . The Interstate Commerce Commission grants a further **suspension** of the **long-and-short-haul clause** to enable American railroads to meet the **Canadian Pacific** rates. . . . The Spanish cruiser *Vizcaya* **leaves** New York harbor **for Havana.** . . . **Thirty hay shippers,** representing the Middle-Western States, meet at Detroit to organize **a trust** to be known as the American Hay Shippers' Association, to be capitalized at $5,000,000. . . . The **Kentucky house passes a bill** which absolutely **prohibits** the sale, barter, loan, or use of **cigarettes or cigarette material,** or even to have these things in one's possession. . . . Congress—Senate: The **Corbett-Oregon claim** is discussed. House: The **sundry civil bill** is debated.

The *Maine* **Court** of inquiry holds another session in Havana harbor, **examining divers** closely; the testimony developed is not made public. . . . The Tsung-li-Yamen has granted important **commercial concessions** to foreign imports into **China.** . . . **Ex-Minister De Lome** complains that he was the victim of **misrepresentation in American newspapers.**

Saturday, February 26.

The **Spanish Charge d'Affairs** at Washington **declares** that there are **no mines or torpedoes in Havana harbor**; the *Maine* disaster, he holds, was a pure accident. . . . The **Secretaries of War and the Navy** authorize **denials** of rumors **that extraordinary preparations for war** are in progress. . . . The **Navy Department** asks permission from Congress to enlist **1,500 additional men** as crews for the *Columbia* and the *Minneapolis*. . . . Congress—Senate: Several minor bills are passed. House: Sundry civil appropriation bill is discussed.

The **Spanish Cortes** is **dissolved**; the Ministry vote 1,000,000 pesetas ($194,000) to develop the Spanish navy. . . . M. Clemenceau, an ex-deputy, and M. Drumont, an editor, fight **a duel** in Paris because of a dispute **over the Zola trial**; neither is hurt. . . . **An attempt** is made by two men **to shoot King George of Greece** as he was driving near Athens; the King escapes unhurt.

Sunday, February 27.

The *Maine* **court** of inquiry **arrives at Key West,** where it will take testimony until Wednesday. . . . **William M. Singerly,** the well-known journalist, **dies** suddenly from heart failure at his home in Philadelphia. . . . A large shipment of **reindeer arrives** at this port from Arctic Lapland on the *Manitoban*; they are **bound for the Klondike.** . . . The **boat's crew of La Champagne,** the overdue French liner, who were picked up in midocean by the *Rotterdam*, suffering from cold and exposure, are improving.

Premier **Sagasta says** that **no Spanish Government** would **listen** to a proposal to **arbitrate the Cuban trouble**; **"Correspondencia Militar,"** the **organ** of the **Spanish army, says** that **war** with the United States is expected in **April.** . . . The overdue French Line steamer *La Champagne* is **towed into Halifax** by the freight steamer *Roman*. . . . **Another treaty port,** Lake Yung-ting-Tu, **will be opened** to commerce by China.

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CHESS.

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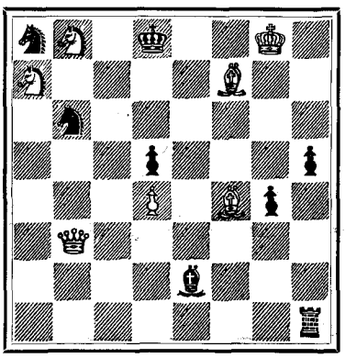
Problem 266.

BY E. B. SCHWANN.

Black—Eight Pieces.



White—Seven Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 260.

1.	Kt—Q 6 / K—Kt 3	2.	Kt—Q 5 ch / K—B 4	3. Q—B 4, mate
1.	..... / B x P	2.	Q—Kt 5 ch / Any	3. Q x B, mate
1.	..... / B—B 6	2.	Q—Kt 5 ch / K—Q 5	3. Kt(K 7)—B 5, mate
1.	..... / B—Kt 7	2.	Kt(K 7)—B 8 / Any	3. Q—B 4, mate
1.	..... / Kt—Kt 6	2.	Q—R 7 ch / K—Kt 5	3. Kt—Q 5, mate
1.	..... / Kt—B 3	2.	Q—R 3 ch / K—Kt 3	3. Kt—Q 5, mate
		2.	..... / K—Q 5	3. P—K 3, mate
		2.	..... / Kt—Kt 5	3. Q—R 7, mate

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; H. W. Barry, Boston; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; C. F. Putney and W. G. Donnan, Independence, Iowa; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; J. C. Eppens, Canal Dover, Ohio; A. Shepherd, Bloomington, Ill.; C. Q. De France, Lincoln, Neb.; J. C. Shuttuck, C. C. Duff, C. E. Shuttuck, Chess-Club, Owosso, Mich.; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; Dr. R. J. Moore, Riverton, Ala.; C. W. Cooper, Allegheny, Pa.; J. G. O'Callaghan, Low Moor, Va.; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; E. L. Antony and R. M. Campbell, Cameron, Tex.; Dr. W. S. Frick, Philadelphia; the Rev. E. C. Haskell, Battle Creek, Iowa; D. S. Rubino, Glen Lyon, Pa.; Ramus, Carbondale, Ia.

Comments: "A composition of astounding ingenuity"—M. W. H. "Pure and beautiful"—H. W. B. "Quite an instalment of knotty Laws"—I. W. B. "A pretty problem"—C. F. P. "A beauty"—W. G. D. "One of the best"—F. H. J. "Delightful! the Knights are indomitable"—J. C. E. "A stupendous composition"—A. S. "It is the hardest three-mover I have tackled, except 256"—C. Q. De F. "An unusually good problem"—J. C. S., C. C. D., C. E. S. "Key-move as easy as the variations are difficult" W. R. C. "An opaque obscurity"—Dr. R. J. M. "So very fine"—C. W. C. "Excellent"—J. G. O'C. "Highly ingenious"—C. R. O.

No. 261.

Key-move Q—R 3.

Correct solution received from M. W. H., H. W. B., the Rev. I. W. B., C. F. P., W. G. D., F. H. J., J. C. E., A. S., C. Q. De F., J. E. S., C. C. D., C. E. S., Dr. R. J. M., C. R. O., Dr. W. S. F., D. S. R., R.; W. K. Greely, Boston; C. C. Marshall, Battle Creek, Mich.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; F. B. Osgood, North Conway, N. H.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Man.; G. L. Reeves, John Jewell, Columbus, Ind.; W, F. Baker, Tiffin, Ohio.

Comments: "Quite ingenious, but easy"—M. W. H. "Has a good key"—H. W. B. "A gem"—I. W. B. "A splendid key-move, and otherwise good"—C. F. P. "Fine, indeed"—W. G. D. "Construction admirable; key-move well hidden"—F. H. J. "Exceptionally brilliant and instructive"—J. C. E. "As fine as a sunbeam"—Dr. R. J. M. "The proffered sacrifice of the Queen ranks 261 as a brilliant illustration of Chess-harmonics"—W. K. G. "Ingenious, but safe for the most apoplectic"—C. C. M.

It is strange that so many of our solvers who got the difficult 260 went astray when they tackled 261. The three traps into which they fell are R—K 7, P x Q, and R x P. The first of these, R—K 7, has the promising move, Kt—R 5, mate, so that those who tried this gave 1 R—K 7, Q any; 2 Kt—R 5, mate. But suppose Black answers Q x B P, where is the mate? The next most hopeful way is P x Q. The answer is Kt x P, for R—B 7 is not mate, K—K 4. The other "try," K R x P, is "cooked" by Q—B sq ch.

Chas. W. Cooper was successful with 258 and 259; C. J. M. Gröntis, Elm, Iowa, F. L. Hitchcock, Scranton, Pa., and Matt. H. Ellis, Philadelphia, got 258.

ERRATA.

In problem 263 the White K is on Q R 8, and White has eight pieces instead of seven.

The International Cable-Match.

The British Team has been selected, and it is, probably, the strongest that can be found in Great Britain. The redoubtable Blackburne leads the host; then comes Amos Burn, one of the best the Britishers have; E. M. Jackson, who won both his games in the other cable-matches; C. D. Locock, who ranks among the first non-professionals; D. Y. Mills, the Scotch champion; H. E. Atkins, the London crack; C. E. H. Bellingham, only twenty-three years of age, but a tournament-winner in 1896; Herbert Jacobs, a fine amateur player; two new men—M. L. Caro, who made a record at Berlin, losing only four out of the nineteen games; and H. W. Trenchard, a veteran who will give a good account of himself.

The Team to represent the United States has also been chosen. Pillsbury and Showalter need no introduction; Barry, the Boston crack, won both his games in '96 and '97; Ed. Hymes held his own in the other matches; Delmar, the veteran, is known everywhere as a brilliant player; Hodges always gives a good account of himself. The other four are Franklin K. Young, of Boston, specially recommended by Pillsbury and Barry; John A. Galbreath, of New Orleans, who is ranked as one of the strongest players of the South; D. G. Baird, one of Greater New York's experts; and Alfred K. Robinson, of the Franklin Chess-Club, Philadelphia, who excels in careful, accurate play. The two substitutes are Major Hanham and Louis Schmidt, both of New York City. The general impression, among those able to give an opinion, is that the British Team is slightly stronger than the American, or, at least, that the chances are in favor of the Englishmen.

The record of the previous matches:

1896.

Brooklyn Chess-Club.		*British Chess-Club.*
H. N. Pillsbury	o	vs. J. H. Blackburne. 1
J. W. Showalter	1	vs. Amos Burn. o
C. F. Burille	1	vs. H. E. Bird. o
John F. Barry	1	vs. Samuel Tinsley. o
Edward Hymes	½	vs. C. D. Locock. ½
A. B. Hodges	½	vs. D. Y. Mills. ½
Eugene Delmar	½	vs. H. E. Atkins. ½
D. G. Baird	o	vs. E. M. Jackson. 1
Total	4½	Total. 3½

1897.

British Chess-Club.		*Brooklyn Chess-Club.*
J. H. Blackburne	½	vs. H. N. Pillsbury. ½
C. D. Locock.	o	vs. J. W. Showalter. 1
H. E. Atkins	1	vs. C. F. Burille. o
T. F. Lawrence	o	vs. John F. Barry. 1
D. Y. Mills	½	vs. Edward Hymes. ½
G. E. H. Bellingham.	½	vs. A. B. Hodges. ½
J. H. Blake	o	vs. Eugene Delmar. 1
E. M. Jackson	1	vs. Herman Helms. o
H. H. Cole	1	vs. F. M. Teed. o
Herbert Jacobs	1	vs. J. L. McCutcheon. o
Total	5½	Total. 4½

The Correspondence Tourney.

FORTY-EIGHTH GAME.

French Defense.

V. BRENT, New Orleans. *White.*	H. KETCHAM, Vergennes, Vt. *Black.*	V. BRENT. *White.*	H. KETCHAM. *Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 3	20 P—K Kt 3	Q—B 2 (k)
2 P—Q 4	P—Q 4	21 P—K R 4	K—K 2 (l)
3 Kt—Q B 3	Kt—K B 3	22 Q—K 3	Q—Kt 3 (m)
4 B-K Kt 5 (a)	P x P	23 Q—B 3	R—Q sq
5 B x Kt (b)	Q x B (c)	24 R-K Bsq (n)	Q—Kt 4
6 Kt x P	Q—Q sq	25 P-R 5 (o)	R—Q 7
7 Kt—K B 3	Kt—Q 2 (d)	26 R—K sq	Q—R 4 (p)
8 B—Q 3	Kt—B 3 (e)	27 Q—Kt 4	Q—Q 4
9 Q—K 2	B—Q 3	28 P x P	R P x P
10 P—Q B 3	B—Q 2 (f)	29 Q—R 4 ch	K—Q 2 (r)
11 Kt—K 5	B x Kt (g)	30 Q—B 6	K—B 2
12 P x B	Kt x Kt (h)	31 Q x P ch	K—Kt sq
13 B x Kt	P—Q B 3 (i)	32 Q x Kt P	Q—Kt 7
14 Castles (Q R)	Q—Kt 4 ch	33 R—Q sq	R x R
15 K—Kt sq	R—Q sq	34 B x R	Q—Kt 8
16 B—B 2	B—B sq	35 Q—Q 3	P—Kt 3
17 P—K B 4	R x R ch (j)	36 K—B sq	Q—B 7
18 R x R	Q—K 2	37 B—B 3	K—Kt 2
19 Q—Q 3	P—K Kt 3	38 Q—K 4	B—Q 2
		39 P—K Kt 4	B—K sq
		40 P—K B 5	Resigns. (s)

Notes by One of the Judges.

(a) Lasker says this move is against the rules of development, and that the better play is P—K 5.

(b) Kt x P is the accepted move, but it does well enough in this instance as Black does not make the proper reply.

(c) Should take with P, and Black had a good game. The doubling of Ps in this position is not, as many players think, unfavorable to Black. It is well to notice the fact that when White's Q B is gone White's K Kt P is not so essential for the defense. While White has his Q B, which can reach K R 6, then the K Kt P should be kept intact. The text-move is, at least, a lost move.

(d) We have, more than once, spoken of this move, which Lasker calls "a sickly move." It gets in the way of two pieces, Q and B. There is, with very few exceptions, no better first move for the Kts than to B 3, for on that point they command more squares.

(e) The spot that should be defended is Black's K 4, and White should occupy it at once.

(f) P—Q Kt 3, followed by B—Kt 2, is best. The B should get on Kt 2 as soon as possible.

(g) Castles is better, followed by Kt—Q 4.

(h) Playing White's game.

(i) Bottling up his B. The B lies dormant for twenty-five moves.

(j) If 17 ... Q x B P, 18 R x R ch, K x R; 19 R—K B sq, and Black loses.

(k) Probably Castles is the best he has.

(l) Nothing the matter with this move.

(m) Gets in the way of his Kt P. He should have tried to get a counter attack with his Ps backed by Q and R.

(n) If R x R, White could hardly do better than draw, if Black defended properly.

(o) Forcing things.

(p) Black takes all the defense from the K side, as if the Ps would take care of themselves.

(r) And, now, the Ps go.

(s) There is no way to stop the Ps.

United States Championship Game.

The match between H. N. Pillsbury and J. W. Showalter, for the Championship of the United States and $1.000 a side began on February 25, in the Postal-Telegraph Building, New York City. The first game, Pillsbury having the White pieces, was a French Defence, and was won by Showalter in 61 moves, each player consuming nearly five hours. The second game, a Ruy Lopez, played Monday, February 28, was won by Pillsbury in 32 moves.

Answers to Correspondents.

H. H. B., Pittsfield, Mass.—You can procure the book on the Rice Gambit by writing to S. Lipschutz, Manhattan Chess-Club, New York City.

A Beginner.—The pronunciation and meaning of the French words are as follows: *En prise*, ăhng preze (English, "In danger of capture"); *en passant*, ăhng passong (English, "in passing"); *j'adoube*, jădube (English, "I adjust"). To capture a P *en passant*, the P must be taken the next move after it was advanced. It is not customary now to say "Guard your Q." Some players of the *ancien régime*, especially Frenchmen, call attention to the Q being checked by the words "*Garde la reine*," having the above meaning, but only when playing with an inferior player or learner.

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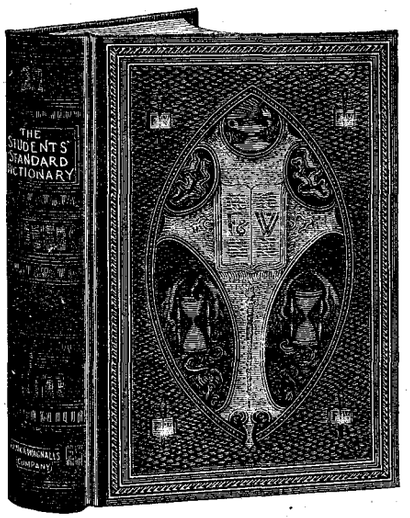

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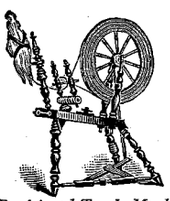

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